AMERICAN RIFLEMAN

Mr. Albin E. McNamara,
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Flushing, N. Y. L' 11/28/36

Peter Peepsight, Pistoleer!

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OH BOY! – THE PISTOL MATCHES – WITH GRANDPA'S ADVICE AND HIS PERSONAL PISTOL – MAYBE I'LL WIN A SMALL MEDAL!
READY ON LEFT – READY ON RIGHT – READY ON – HEY! – WHO FIRED THAT SHOT?
OH-OH!
LISTEN BUD! THIS AIN'T NO SWIMMING MARATHON – GET ON YOUR FEET – THAT SHOT COST YOU TEN POINTS
WHAT-TH-THAT GUY MUST BE SHOOTIN' A ROMAN CANDLE!
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**National rankings determined from performance in registered matches for 1941 reveal that fifteen of the twenty top-ranking American small-bore shooters are users of Bausch & Lomb Spotting Scope equipment. These fifteen, with their national ranking order, are shown above.*

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THE
AMERICAN
RIFLEMAN

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1600 Rhode Island Avenue, N. W. **Washington, D. C.**

Pistol Superman FOR 1941

SHOT COLTS EXCLUSIVELY IN ALL MATCHES

HARRY W. REEVES of the Detroit Police — THE MAN OF THE YEAR

WITH CONSISTENT WINNING PERFORMANCES AGAINST THE TOUGHEST COMPETITION, REEVES ACHIEVES NO. 1 RANKING FOR 1941... TAKES 46 FIRSTS IN SIX MAJOR TOURNAMENTS... HOLDS 8 INDIVIDUAL WORLD'S RECORDS PLUS 2 DOUBLES RECORDS

Meeting the best that the pistol-shooting world had to offer wherever he registered during 1941, Harry Reeves justly earned his top-ranking spot as MAN OF THE YEAR. Against hot competition from Michigan to Florida, his consistently fine performances gained for him a yearly average of 95.82 in .22 and center-fire . . . 95.87 in .45 shooting. And his matches included the biggest . . . Camp Perry, Flamingo and the Mid-Winter at Tampa. Here's a quick review of what Reeves did in six matches . . . He won 9 firsts at Perry, including the All-Around Championship and the Grand Aggregate . . . and that's real shooting. In the Florida Matches . . . 5 firsts at Tampa . . . 4 more at Coral Gables. At the Pre-Perry shoot, Reeves captured 3 firsts. He won 13 firsts out of 15 individual matches at the Michigan State Annual. And, at the North Central Regional, twelve first-place medals. Not to mention the 19 second-place positions he gained in these matches . . . and his part as a member of the high-stepping Detroit Police Team.

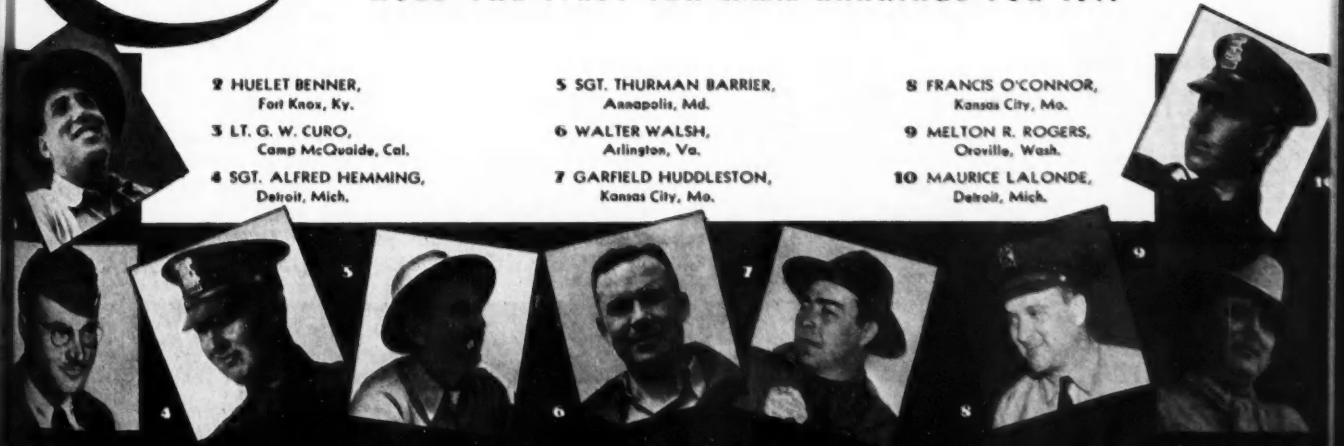
REEVES HOLDS, AT THIS WRITING, THE FOLLOWING WORLD'S RECORDS

.22 Slow Fire (50 yds.)	198
.22 N.R.A. Short Course (shared with Barrier)	295
Center-Fire Slow Fire (25 yds.)	200 (plus 32 tens)
Center-Fire Timed Fire (held with Gustin and Chapman)	200
Center-Fire Doubles C.P.C. (with team-mate Hemming)	597
.45 Slow Fire	194
.45 Rapid Fire	197
.45 N.M.C. (held with Barrier)	292
.45 N.R.A. Short Course (held with Echols)	290
.45 Doubles N.M.C. (teamed with Hemming)	568

COLT

ALSO TOASTS THE OTHER NINE COLT SHOOTERS SHOWN BELOW WHO, WITH HARRY REEVES, HOLD THE FIRST TEN N.R.A. RANKINGS FOR 1941

2 HUELET BENNER, Fort Knox, Ky.
3 LT. G. W. CURO, Camp McQuaide, Cal.
4 SGT. ALFRED HEMMING, Detroit, Mich.
5 SGT. THURMAN BARRIER, Annapolis, Md.
6 WALTER WALSH, Arlington, Va.
7 GARFIELD HUDDLESTON, Kansas City, Mo.
8 FRANCIS O'CONNOR, Kansas City, Mo.
9 MELTON R. ROGERS, Oroville, Wash.
10 MAURICE LALONDE, Detroit, Mich.



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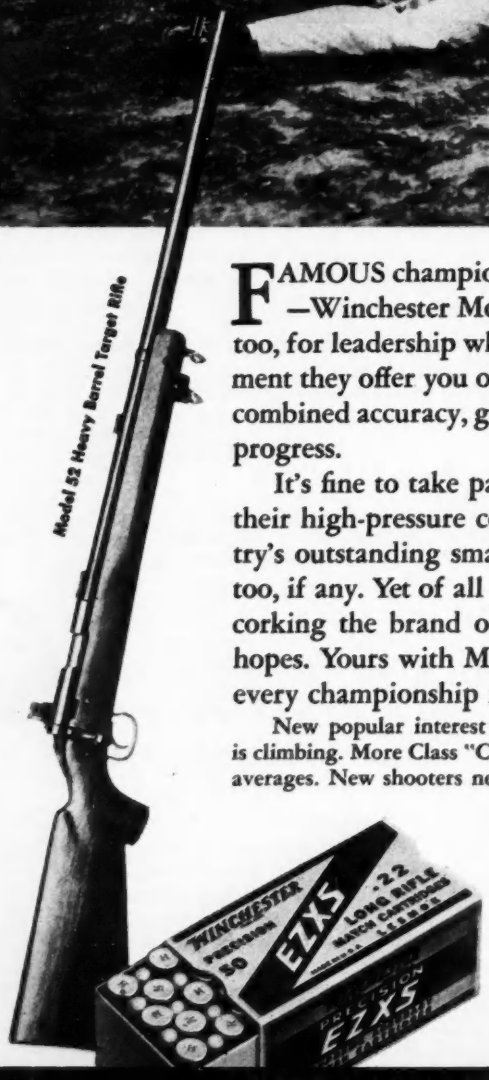
TRADE MARK



FAMOUS championship combination—in small-bore rifle competition—Winchester Model 52 and Precision EZXS are known everywhere, too, for leadership where championships begin. That is in the encouragement they offer you on the home-club range. By their consistently superb combined accuracy, giving you the real, "mike" measure of your shooting progress.

It's fine to take part in big rifle tournaments—to get the keen lift of their high-pressure competition, matching shot for shot with the country's outstanding small-bore shooters in your class and the class above, too, if any. Yet of all your shooting enjoyment, nothing beats that of uncorking the brand of shooting which spark-plugs your championship hopes. Yours with Model 52 and EZXS on the home-club range, where every championship really begins.

New popular interest in marksmanship is getting into high gear. Home-club activity is climbing. More Class "C" shoots are in the wind, with scores registered for N. R. A. 1942 averages. New shooters need leadership. Get ready now with Model 52 and EZXS for an outdoor season to remember, even if you shoot only on your home-club range.

RIFLE AND PISTOL CLUB SECRETARIES

Winchester's new 1942 Rifle and Pistol Handicap Booklet provides you a scientific and eminently fair system for working out handicaps for your members for club tournaments. Every club secretary should have a copy. Sent FREE to Club Secretaries on request to Rifle Promotion Manager, Winchester Repeating Arms Co., Div. of Western Cartridge Co., New Haven, Conn., U.S.A.

W WINCHESTER REPEATING ARMS COMPANY W

Division of Western Cartridge Company

NEW HAVEN, CONN., U. S. A.

The AMERICAN RIFLEMAN

Official Journal of The National Rifle Association of America

THE COVER—With emphasis swinging away from the purely civilian aspects of target shooting, and turning to the job of making every American doughboy a qualified rifle shot, the Marine Corps "boot" on this month's cover becomes a symbol of the position the target shooting sport must fill "for the duration." The picture was taken by Staff Photographer Scofield on the Leatherneck's great training range at Quantico, Virginia, during a preliminary instruction period for more than eleven hundred newly-enlisted Marine recruits.

SINGLE-HANDED brings to RIFLEMAN pages for the first time the story of "America's greatest doughboy." The author, Lt.-Col. Dan. D. Howe, served overseas with the 5th Division and participated in the engagement which forms the background of his story. "Single-Handed" appeared originally in the March, 1941, issue of *The Infantry Journal*.

MENDOZA MACHINE GUN: Author-inventor Melvin M. Johnson, Jr., spent a part of last year in our neighbor-republic to the South, and brought back for RIFLEMAN readers the story of a Mexican firearms designer comparable to our own John M. Browning and John Garand. Rafael Mendoza's light machine gun, described in the article, will be new to most Americans.

HANDGUNS AND COOKSTOVES introduces a new writer to the pistol-shooting fraternity in R. C. Skaggs, who has specialized in .38 Special loadings. His experiments in the interests of improved accuracy probably constitute as complete an investigation of any one caliber as has ever been carried out by a handloader. We can look forward to another of his articles before long, this one on bullet lubricants for the handgunner.

NEXT MONTH

SGT. JOE McCANN'S "Airport Defense," page 17 this issue, will be followed in April with the second of his civilian defense series—the part riflemen can play in the defense of our long coastline against surprise invasion.

"PIPSQUEAKS AT 300," a survey of the possibilities of long-range work with the little .22's as a substitute for Service rifle shooting, will appeal to big-bore fans, already feeling the pinch of our .30 caliber ammunition shortage.

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SINGLE-HANDED

By Lieutenant Colonel Dan. D. Howe

IT HAD BEEN A HARD RIDE in the trucks, and now the mud was soft underfoot. By night marches the infantry outfits of the 5th Division were working toward the north from their detrucking point. As they marched they knew that battle might come to them in this Meuse-Argonne area at almost any hour. And soon enough it did.

By the night of October 10-11 the troops of the 5th Division had gone far enough forward to relieve those of the 80th. But there was no formal posting of sentries about it. It was a matter of going in on the run to take over the ground gained at a high cost by the troops already on it. At the extreme front, squads and half-squads, even single soldiers had to be found and relieved from the shell holes they were defending.

This was the way the 60th Infantry took over the sector south of Cunel. The relief began in the midst of continuous shell fire and there was plenty more of it right on through until the forward units of the 80th had been collected and moved to the rear.

In the area of the 60th, the 3d Battalion was up ahead on the reverse slope of a hill just to the south of Cunel. The other two battalions were deployed to the rear, with the 2d in support in the Bois des Ogons and the 1st in reserve farther back in the same woods, with the regimental headquarters close by. Up in the 3d Battalion sector, Company M—a rifle company—was near the Cunel Road. Foxholes along the open hillside gave most of the cover there was. A soldier couldn't turn over in one without drawing small-arms or even artillery fire. The German artillery observers were handling their batteries almost like snipers. There was many a direct hit whenever our troops were rash enough to attempt movements in the open. From the far heights of the Meuse heavy German guns dropped a big one into the area at odd intervals.

The ground to the west of the 3d Battalion was also open and torn by shellfire, and over there a battalion of the 30th Infantry was having much the same kind of a time of it as the 3d Battalion of the 60th.

Off in the other direction, to the east, there were patches of woods. All day rifles had cracked from those woods and sometimes it was possible to see men moving. Word came in to the 3d Battalion that some battalion of the 61st, in the same brigade, was relieving troops of the 80th in that area. But no contact had been gained on that flank when night fell on October 11.

Soon after dark hot food, and welcome, came up to Company M, and this made the misty night in open shell holes seem less chilly.

A little later a message came from the battalion commander directing all company commanders to report to his command post, located in a big shell hole a little to the west of the Cunel Road. There was hardly room in the shell hole for everybody to kneel around the battalion commander's dirty map. One candle, under a covering of shelter halves, gave all the light there was.

The battalion commander went over the situation tersely and then gave his order. He emphasized first that there were plenty of German troops to the front and flanks. The battalion would attack to the north at daybreak, take Cunel, and clean out the Bois de la Pultière. Once this had been done, the companies would then reorganize in the woods and wait there for further orders. M Company was to advance as the right (east) flank unit, help clean out Cunel and the woods beyond it, and then take the high ground to the east.

Nobody slept much. Artillery fire began to build up towards dawn and at 6:00 A. M., as it became fairly light, the 3d Battalion moved forward with its two leading

Appeared originally in "THE INFANTRY JOURNAL."

companies abreast, and the two others several hundred yards back in support.

Fog and smoke helped M Company get going in the orthodox deployed formation. But as it reached a line just north of the road running east from Cunel, the Germans opened with rifle and machine-gun fire. It wasn't long before the company was pinned to the ground.

M Company's commander was in a shell hole himself and looked carefully over the edge of it to size things up. As he did so he began to do some figuring. He figured first that those troops—those Germans—out there to the front probably knew what they were doing. They had had four years, some of them, to learn how. They not only had the ground across which his company must advance, if it were to get anywhere, covered with the crossing fires of heavy machine guns. They also had snipers protecting the gun crews and covering any dead ground which the fire of the machine guns didn't happen to cover.

You can't march troops across open ground toward such defenses and expect them to get there. The human body is too big a target and there are too many bullets to find it. There were twenty or more M Company dead in getting just this far forward. No, the company commander figured, men can't advance against that kind of fire across that kind of ground in a deployed upright formation, no matter how wide the intervals. There is only one way to do it: You've got to get forward as far as you can without being seen. And when you are seen you've got to shoot first and you've got to shoot straight. It's no different from the Philippines back in 1901, he thought.

But then he thought again how green his whole company was compared to the enemy veterans. Many of his recent replacements knew little more than how to set their sights, if that much. In fact, he had figured this whole thing out before. And he knew just what he was going to do if ever he found his company in the fix it was in now. His headquarters group had been carrying a star-gauge rifle for him, a new one, to use at just such a time. He had it in his hand, and it felt good.

He managed to signal "Down" to his forward platoon and then crawled over the edge of his shell hole and worked his way forward. First getting a bandoleer from his nearest soldier, he headed generally toward a hump in the ground about a hundred yards ahead from which he thought he might get better observation. As he went, several of his runners crawled in the same direction some distance behind him.

He could see much better into enemy ground from the hump as he had thought he could. He watched closely for a few minutes and then he picked up signs of a machine gun firing in the edge of the woods over there about three hundred yards northeast of Cunel. He couldn't see any enemy soldiers but he could hear an occasional machine-gun burst and see the puffs of smoke. So he began to crawl on, watching constantly in that direction.

But he had crawled only a few yards when a blast of fire directly from his left gashed the ground beside him. Automatically he shifted toward that direction. He could see, more prominent than anything else, the church tower on the east edge of Cunel. And yes, he could see smoke curling out of a crack in the tower. He aimed straight at the small square window in the tower and fired about five shots. Then he waited a few seconds. No more fire came from the tower of the church, so now he shifted his direction back toward his original objective. Slowly and carefully, making the most of every bump and depression, he crawled along for another hundred yards.

Then another burst of fire, this time from his right, kicked up the dirt close enough to splatter him. He twisted to the right, clinging close to the ground, and took a quick look under the front of his helmet. On the edge of another patch of woods off in the new direction he thought he could see a dark square and near it some smoke. He remembered that German blankets were

black. It must be a blanket hung from the lower branches of a tree to cover the flashes of a gun. The blanket seemed to be hung with its lower edge two or three feet off the ground. He figured that the barrel of the gun ought to be two or three inches under the edge of the blanket. He shifted a little to a better firing position—all of this thinking and shifting took only a second or two—and then fired a full clip right through the lower edge of the blanket. He put a second clip in his rifle but there was no return fire from behind the blanket. He turned again toward the Bois de la Pultière where he had first seen activity. He was only a couple of hundred yards from there now. But he still couldn't see anything except an occasional puff of smoke after a machine-gun burst.

He couldn't, he figured, get much closer the way he was going. But there was a road ditch close by and this ought to help him gain a good deal more ground before the Germans saw him.

In fact, by using the ditch he got within thirty or forty yards of the German gun position. He still couldn't see much. The field grey of the German uniform blended almost perfectly with the foliage. But once in a while he could see movement, and always the puff of smoke.

It was only a minute, however, when a face appeared among the leaves in the edge of the woods—the face perhaps of the leader of the German gun squad or that of the gunner himself, and for some reason there was excitement written upon it. The American company commander was already hugging the ground, holding his rifle ready to bring it to the aim. But before he fired he pulled his automatic out of its holster and laid it on the ground in easy reach. He was so close to the enemy this time he might need his maximum fire-power.

Now inch by inch he moved his rifle up to the aim and then squeezed and fired right under the edge of the German soldier's clearly outlined helmet. He reloaded with the least possible movement of hand and wrist as the face dropped out of sight. But another appeared at once in its place. He fired again and the second face was gone like the first. Four times he fired, and four times a face disappeared.

No other soldiers of the enemy, so it seemed, had enough curiosity left to venture a look from the woods out into the open ground.

But now a slight movement in the underbrush caught the eye of the American. He thought he could see a man crawling toward the rear. First the man's body, then his helmeted head, which looked like that of a big turtle as it slowly raised as the man crawled. With the last shot in his clip the company commander dropped this soldier also to the ground. At once another grey figure jumped from concealment and headed into the shrubbery for the rear. But the American still had his automatic and shifted to it in an instant. Three or four shots he fired at top rapid-fire speed, and this last German figure staggered and fell into the bushes.

There was no more movement in the woods, no noise, no slightest sign of life. The American officer moved forward slowly and carefully, gaining finally the edge of the woods. There were six dead Germans there in the underbrush. Four lay near the gunner's position of the camouflaged machine gun. A little to one side were the two men who had tried to get away. All six had been killed without ever seeing their enemy and probably without knowing even the direction of his fire.

A trail ran back into the woods from the gun position. The American moved along it with the utmost caution. A few yards farther on he found a German officer twisted in a heap by the side of the trail. He looked as if he might have been hit by an artillery shell or perhaps a machine-gun burst while running rapidly. His head rested awkwardly on his knee as if he had been taking a great stride when something felled him. All this the American took in at a glance as he moved to step past the figure. Then he caught the open eye of the German. It wasn't a dead eye. It wasn't glazed, but glittered like the eye of a living man.

It was alive, all right. The German jumped up and at him with full force, grabbing his rifle with one hand and wrapping the other arm around his neck. The German had nearly wrested his rifle away when the American thought of the automatic in his belt. He suddenly released his hold on the rifle, snatched out his pistol, and fired against the side of the German. That was all there was to that.

No other enemy appeared and it was again quiet in the woods. The company commander suddenly thought of his company. It was over an hour since he had left them. He ought to be getting contact with them again. He went back cautiously to the edge of the woods.

From there he could see what appeared to be advanced elements working along the outskirts of Cunel, not far away. He could see a few others to the east of the town approaching the woods. Two of his own men were not far out from the edge of the underbrush. He signalled to them that he was going back into the woods and that he wanted them to signal the company to keep advancing.

He could now hear scattered firing at different places in the Bois de la Pultière. He decided to find out what it was and made his way toward the nearest sounds of firing. His route took him along the eastern slope of the rising ground just outside the edge of the woods. He hadn't gone far when a rifle bullet scattered dirt on his feet.

He scrambled for cover beyond the great roots of a large elm tree and then tried to see who was shooting at him. The dying echoes of the shot seemed to come from a point not far up the slope of the hill. The angle of fire had seemed to be high. The German might be up a tree.

While he was thinking this over the company commander saw one of his sergeants crawling through the bushes to a spot behind a big tree about forty yards to his left. Then came the sharp crack of a rifle from the branches above. The shot, fired straight downward, grazed the sergeant's nose and ripped up the ground between his feet. He jumped high off the ground in his surprise and as he landed raised his automatic and fired up into the tree above him. For a second or two there was no sound but the echo of the pistol shot. Then a German sniper crashed down through the branches and hit the ground at the feet of the sergeant, now doubly astonished.

While this was happening, some of the forward elements of the company had crossed the road and were entering the woods at different points. German machine guns now opened a steady fire which seemed to be raking the high

ground not far to the north. The trees, for the most part, were dense and tangled, but the company commander could see that strips cleared of timber and underbrush ran in angular directions toward the higher ground. These were surely fields of fire prepared for machine guns—good places to keep out of. So he decided he had better do some further reconnoitering before the bulk of his company tried to gain that higher ground.

Accordingly he moved on into the woods toward the sound of the nearest enemy machine guns. In a short time the noise was very close. Ahead of him was a tree-top brought down not many hours before by artillery fire. He crawled into the tangled mass of branches and worked his way through to the other side. There, hidden among the leaves, he found himself peering squarely into a German machine-gun nest not forty yards away. The crew was partly under cover in the gun emplacement and nearby trenches.

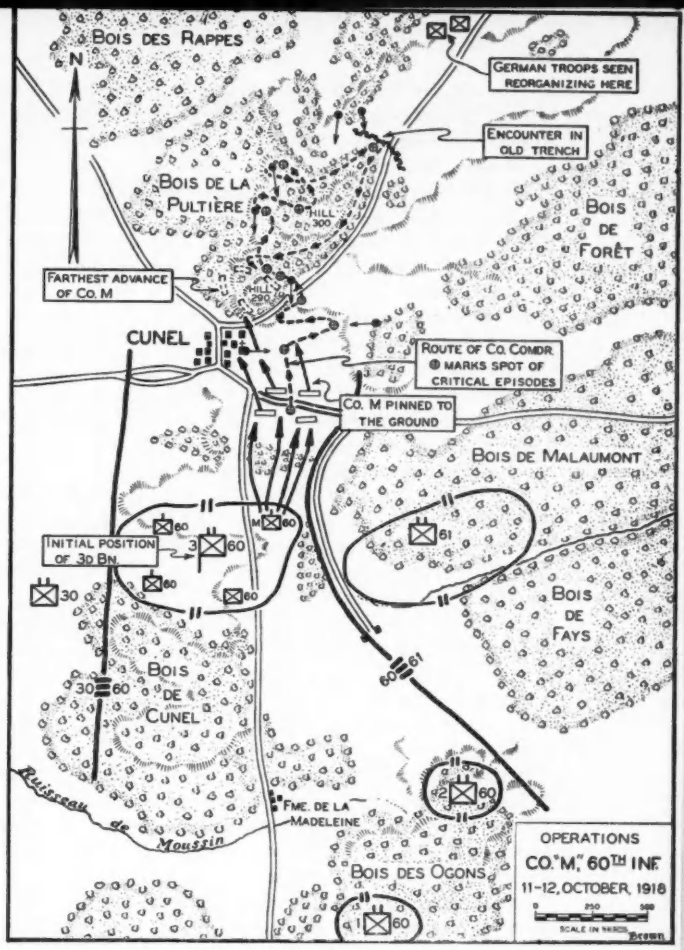
The company commander aimed at the crouching gunner and fired. Another German gunner sprang to the gun. But he didn't get off a single shot. There appeared to be three more Germans left, and all three of them were now trying to turn the gun around so that it could be fired in their defense. The German heavy gun of those days only had a traverse of some thirty degrees, and shifting took time. In fact, it took too much time. The American fired three more shots and then the crew of a second gun lay quietly dead in the midst of the Bois de la Pultière.

The company commander circled around this area and moved off again toward the north. It struck him as he did so that if the whole woods had to be cleaned out he had better find out how big the woods were. Already he thought he could see their northern edge through the trees. As he continued on he could hear rifle fire first from one direction and then from another. And then not far to the northeast a machine gun opened up.

He could probably get a better idea of things if now he went up to higher ground. He shifted his direction to the east toward the northern slope of Hill 300. At the first rise he stopped to observe.

Just at this moment he heard the bushes rustling near him. Before he could jump to cover three German soldiers, ammunition carriers for a machine-gun crew, came into plain sight and close at hand. The encounter was so sudden neither American nor Germans did anything for a second. Then the company commander instinctively half-raised his rifle, exclaiming something (he doesn't remember today what it was he said). The Germans dropped their ammunition, raised their hands up high, and shouted out together, "Kameraden!" and kept on shouting it.

The next thought that struck the American was that if he could get these soldiers to talk he might find out something about the rest of the woods and the immediate situation. He forgot for a minute that he couldn't speak any German himself—and then he had recourse to sign language. Holding his rifle ready with one hand, he made a rotary motion with the other. Next he looked toward the north and waved his hand in that direction and then back and forth. What he wanted to know was whether there were any other Germans nearby, and how many of them there were.



But by this time the three ammunition carriers simply seemed to be getting more and more scared. So in a last attempt to make himself understood the American lowered his gun to the ground, made a sign more or less indicating disgust, and wound up his gestures by a wave toward the rear. This the Germans had no difficulty in understanding. All three of them took off their steel helmets, dropped them on the ground, and began moving slowly over the hill towards the American lines. With their helmets off he could see that the Germans were not the seasoned veterans his outfit had been fighting during the days just passed. They were only kids with fuzz on their faces. He figured they would keep on moving toward the rear, all right, and that the advanced elements of his company, not far away, would take care of them.

But he still didn't know what was to be found farther to the north. He moved on down the slope, but had only gone a few paces when he heard a machine gun. The sound seemed to come from the northwest.

This time it took him the best part of half an hour to creep close enough to hear the click of the German bolt between the bursts. By this time he had reached the cover of a log and figured that the gun and its crew must not be far beyond the other side of it. He peeped cautiously over the log and there they were—a machine gunner and a crew of four—not more than a grenade's throw from where he was himself.

It didn't take him long to figure this time that he would have to do some more fast work. A fight of any

black. It must be a blanket hung from the lower branches of a tree to cover the flashes of a gun. The blanket seemed to be hung with its lower edge two or three feet off the ground. He figured that the barrel of the gun ought to be two or three inches under the edge of the blanket. He shifted a little to a better firing position—all of this thinking and shifting took only a second or two—and then fired a full clip right through the lower edge of the blanket. He put a second clip in his rifle but there was no return fire from behind the blanket. He turned again toward the Bois de la Pultière where he had first seen activity. He was only a couple of hundred yards from there now. But he still couldn't see anything except an occasional puff of smoke after a machine-gun burst.

He couldn't, he figured, get much closer the way he was going. But there was a road ditch close by and this ought to help him gain a good deal more ground before the Germans saw him.

In fact, by using the ditch he got within thirty or forty yards of the German gun position. He still couldn't see much. The field grey of the German uniform blended almost perfectly with the foliage. But once in a while he could see movement, and always the puff of smoke.

It was only a minute, however, when a face appeared among the leaves in the edge of the woods—the face perhaps of the leader of the German gun squad or that of the gunner himself, and for some reason there was excitement written upon it. The American company commander was already hugging the ground, holding his rifle ready to bring it to the aim. But before he fired he pulled his automatic out of its holster and laid it on the ground in easy reach. He was so close to the enemy this time he might need his maximum fire-power.

Now inch by inch he moved his rifle up to the aim and then squeezed and fired right under the edge of the German soldier's clearly outlined helmet. He reloaded with the least possible movement of hand and wrist as the face dropped out of sight. But another appeared at once in its place. He fired again and the second face was gone like the first. Four times he fired, and four times a face disappeared.

No other soldiers of the enemy, so it seemed, had enough curiosity left to venture a look from the woods out into the open ground.

But now a slight movement in the underbrush caught the eye of the American. He thought he could see a man crawling toward the rear. First the man's body, then his helmeted head, which looked like that of a big turtle as it slowly raised as the man crawled. With the last shot in his clip the company commander dropped this soldier also to the ground. At once another grey figure jumped from concealment and headed into the shrubbery for the rear. But the American still had his automatic and shifted to it in an instant. Three or four shots he fired at top rapid-fire speed, and this last German figure staggered and fell into the bushes.

There was no more movement in the woods, no noise, no slightest sign of life. The American officer moved forward slowly and carefully, gaining finally the edge of the woods. There were six dead Germans there in the underbrush. Four lay near the gunner's position of the camouflaged machine gun. A little to one side were the two men who had tried to get away. All six had been killed without ever seeing their enemy and probably without knowing even the direction of his fire.

A trail ran back into the woods from the gun position. The American moved along it with the utmost caution. A few yards farther on he found a German officer twisted in a heap by the side of the trail. He looked as if he might have been hit by an artillery shell or perhaps a machine-gun burst while running rapidly. His head rested awkwardly on his knee as if he had been taking a great stride when something felled him. All this the American took in at a glance as he moved to step past the figure. Then he caught the open eye of the German. It wasn't a dead eye. It wasn't glazed, but glittered like the eye of a living man.

It was alive, all right. The German jumped up and at him with full force, grabbing his rifle with one hand and wrapping the other arm around his neck. The German had nearly wrested his rifle away when the American thought of the automatic in his belt. He suddenly released his hold on the rifle, snatched out his pistol, and fired against the side of the German. That was all there was to that.

No other enemy appeared and it was again quiet in the woods. The company commander suddenly thought of his company. It was over an hour since he had left them. He ought to be getting contact with them again. He went back cautiously to the edge of the woods.

From there he could see what appeared to be advanced elements working along the outskirts of Cunel, not far away. He could see a few others to the east of the town approaching the woods. Two of his own men were not far out from the edge of the underbrush. He signalled to them that he was going back into the woods and that he wanted them to signal the company to keep advancing.

He could now hear scattered firing at different places in the Bois de la Pultière. He decided to find out what it was and made his way toward the nearest sounds of firing. His route took him along the eastern slope of the rising ground just outside the edge of the woods. He hadn't gone far when a rifle bullet scattered dirt on his feet.

He scrambled for cover beyond the great roots of a large elm tree and then tried to see who was shooting at him. The dying echoes of the shot seemed to come from a point not far up the slope of the hill. The angle of fire had seemed to be high. The German might be up a tree.

While he was thinking this over the company commander saw one of his sergeants crawling through the bushes to a spot behind a big tree about forty yards to his left. Then came the sharp crack of a rifle from the branches above. The shot, fired straight downward, grazed the sergeant's nose and ripped up the ground between his feet. He jumped high off the ground in his surprise and as he landed raised his automatic and fired up into the tree above him. For a second or two there was no sound but the echo of the pistol shot. Then a German sniper crashed down through the branches and hit the ground at the feet of the sergeant, now doubly astonished.

While this was happening, some of the forward elements of the company had crossed the road and were entering the woods at different points. German machine guns now opened a steady fire which seemed to be raking the high

ground not far to the north. The trees, for the most part, were dense and tangled, but the company commander could see that strips cleared of timber and underbrush ran in angular directions toward the higher ground. These were surely fields of fire prepared for machine guns—good places to keep out of. So he decided he had better do some further reconnoitering before the bulk of his company tried to gain that higher ground.

Accordingly he moved on into the woods toward the sound of the nearest enemy machine guns. In a short time the noise was very close. Ahead of him was a tree-top brought down not many hours before by artillery fire. He crawled into the tangled mass of branches and worked his way through to the other side. There, hidden among the leaves, he found himself peering squarely into a German machine-gun nest not forty yards away. The crew was partly under cover in the gun emplacement and nearby trenches.

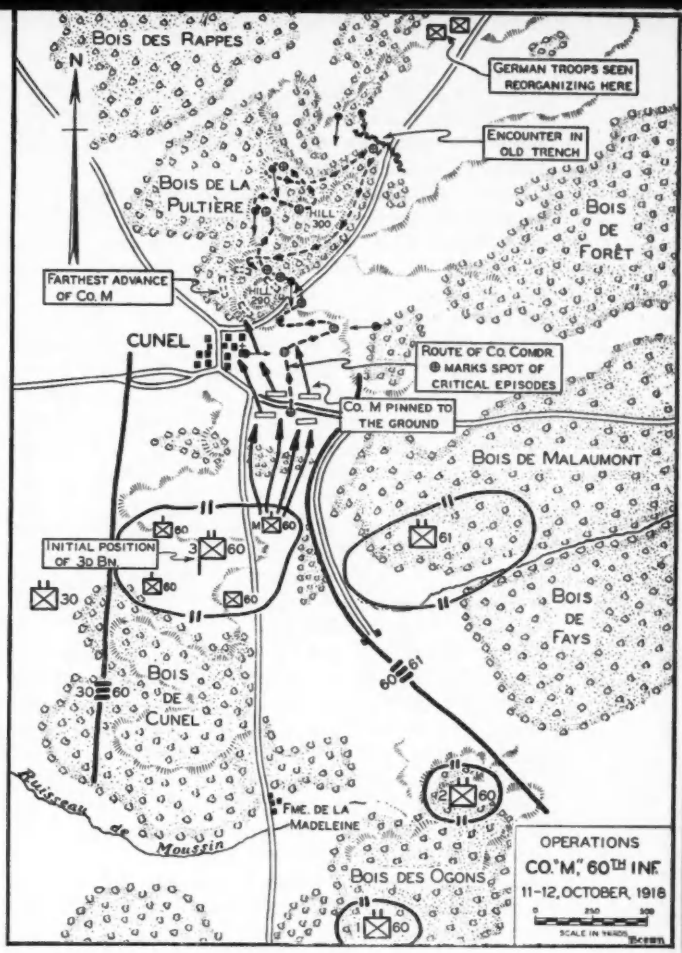
The company commander aimed at the crouching gunner and fired. Another German gunner sprang to the gun. But he didn't get off a single shot. There appeared to be three more Germans left, and all three of them were now trying to turn the gun around so that it could be fired in their defense. The German heavy gun of those days only had a traverse of some thirty degrees, and shifting took time. In fact, it took too much time. The American fired three more shots and then the crew of a second gun lay quietly dead in the midst of the Bois de la Pultière.

The company commander circled around this area and moved off again toward the north. It struck him as he did so that if the whole woods had to be cleaned out he had better find out how big the woods were. Already he thought he could see their northern edge through the trees. As he continued on he could hear rifle fire first from one direction and then from another. And then not far to the northeast a machine gun opened up.

He could probably get a better idea of things if now he went up to higher ground. He shifted his direction to the east toward the northern slope of Hill 300. At the first rise he stopped to observe.

Just at this moment he heard the bushes rustling near him. Before he could jump to cover three German soldiers, ammunition carriers for a machine-gun crew, came into plain sight and close at hand. The encounter was so sudden neither American nor Germans did anything for a second. Then the company commander instinctively half-raised his rifle, exclaiming something (he doesn't remember today what it was he said). The Germans dropped their ammunition, raised their hands up high, and shouted out together, "Kameraden!" and kept on shouting it.

The next thought that struck the American was that if he could get these soldiers to talk he might find out something about the rest of the woods and the immediate situation. He forgot for a minute that he couldn't speak any German himself—and then he had recourse to sign language. Holding his rifle ready with one hand, he made a rotary motion with the other. Next he looked toward the north and waved his hand in that direction and then back and forth. What he wanted to know was whether there were any other Germans nearby, and how many of them there were.


BOIS DES RAPPES
N
GERMAN TROOPS SEEN REORGANIZING HERE
ENCOUNTER IN OLD TRENCH
BOIS DE LA PULTIÈRE
HILL 300
BOIS DE FORÊT
FARTHEST ADVANCE OF CO. M
CUNEL
ROUTE OF CO. COMDR. ⊕ MARKS SPOT OF CRITICAL EPISODES
CO. M PINNED TO THE GROUND
BOIS DE MALAUMONT
INITIAL POSITION OF 3D BN.
BOIS DE FAYS
BOIS DE CUNEL
FME. DE LA MADELEINE
Ruisseau de Moussin
BOIS DES OGONS
OPERATIONS CO. "M," 60TH INF. 11-12, OCTOBER, 1918

But by this time the three ammunition carriers simply seemed to be getting more and more scared. So in a last attempt to make himself understood the American lowered his gun to the ground, made a sign more or less indicating disgust, and wound up his gestures by a wave toward the rear. This the Germans had no difficulty in understanding. All three of them took off their steel helmets, dropped them on the ground, and began moving slowly over the hill towards the American lines. With their helmets off he could see that the Germans were not the seasoned veterans his outfit had been fighting during the days just passed. They were only kids with fuzz on their faces. He figured they would keep on moving toward the rear, all right, and that the advanced elements of his company, not far away, would take care of them.

But he still didn't know what was to be found farther to the north. He moved on down the slope, but had only gone a few paces when he heard a machine gun. The sound seemed to come from the northwest.

This time it took him the best part of half an hour to creep close enough to hear the click of the German bolt between the bursts. By this time he had reached the cover of a log and figured that the gun and its crew must not be far beyond the other side of it. He peeped cautiously over the log and there they were—a machine gunner and a crew of four—not more than a grenade's throw from where he was himself.

It didn't take him long to figure this time that he would have to do some more fast work. A fight of any

length this far from his own troops would bring German reinforcements running. Taking only time for this thought he aimed and fired at the gunner. And four more times he aimed and fired.

There is no reason why an expert rifleman with a star-gauge rifle should have missed a man at fifty yards. He didn't miss. Five shots rapid fire, and this German machine-gun crew had joined their comrades from the first two crews.

A quick look around the immediate area detected no further signs of enemy movement. The company commander now thought the best thing to do was to gain the northern edge of the woods, take a good look, and then return to his company. He moved carefully on until he could see open sky. This proved to be at the northeastern corner of the Bois de la Pultière.

Near to the edge of the woods he found some old German trenches. He decided they needed investigating. He was about to gain the nearest trench when violent firing broke out from somewhere else, apparently aimed in his direction. It seemed to be coming from the edge of the timber a few hundred yards to the northwest. The shifting of the bursts and the whistling of the bullets indicated that his particular corner of the forest was being searched by machine-gun fire. Each burst seemed closer. The nearest cover was the old German trench, if he could make it.

He jumped for it so fast that he dropped his rifle. He landed in the trench on his left knee and arm, but with his automatic in his right hand. He had drawn it instinctively as he dived for the trench. It was a good instinct to obey, for he landed almost on top of a German soldier on watch in the old trench. The German grabbed him and they wrestled for the gun. But the American managed to get his pistol hand free and fire point-blank. The German backed away and fell.

The company commander had hardly caught his breath when he heard a click behind him. He spun around and there was another German. This new enemy had just come around a corner of the trench and by now had partly raised his rifle. He brought up his pistol and attempted to fire. The automatic jammed, so he threw it straight at the German's face. He had forgotten that the pistol was tied to him by the lanyard and it flew backward and almost struck his own face instead.

But the German soldier was in a jam too, trying frantically to work the bolt of his rifle home. From the corner of his eye the American saw an engineer's pick lying in the trench. One jump and it was in his hands. Without loss of motion he swung it from the ground with all his strength. The pick landed squarely just below the edge of the German's helmet. Soldier and rifle crashed to the ground.

The American, still clutching the pick, turned as he heard another noise again in his rear. The man he had shot in the initial encounter was on his feet, Luger in hand, and about to fire. The American swung the pick again in a swift high arc that came down on top of the German's helmet. The point went readily through the helmet and skull alike.

By this time the company commander felt that although a pick might do as a weapon in emergencies, he needed his rifle. He crawled slowly out of the trench to find it. It felt good in his hands again. Machine-gun fire was still whipping into the woods uncomfortably close to him. He wormed his way rapidly to a covered position from where he could see off to the northeast. Maybe he could spot the machine guns from there. He couldn't see them but there were other targets in view. A German soldier came out of the woods and made his way toward the road to the east. The company commander followed this moving target with careful aim and at the soldier's first slight pause pressed the trigger. The German fell.

The crack of his rifle was heard and recognized by one of his own runners who crept into a covered position nearby. Both now took up a systematic fire at every enemy that came into view. The smoke and noise from other firing made the two snipers fairly safe from discovery as they alternately blazed away.

This game of picking off Germans continued until their bandoleer of ammunition was exhausted. By this time numerous large groups of enemy troops had come out of the woods to the northeast. They were in the area between the woods and the road, about 500 yards away. There seemed to be at least a battalion of them. It looked as if the German were getting ready to counter-attack the Bois de la Pultière.

Once more the company commander began to think seriously about his company. He had better by all means see that it was reorganized on its objective back there in the woods. He should also find the battalion commander without delay and tell him of the situation. The company commander signalled his runner and moved back under cover of the woods towards Hill 300 with these problems uppermost in mind.

The company had entered the Bois de la Pultière piecemeal. Some had fought their way through the village of Cunel and some had worked across the open area to the east of the village. Once they had gained the edge of the woods, the direction of attack they had originally taken would have led them across the top of Hill 290. But this particular area was swept by machine-gun fire, and so the bulk of the company had found cover to the east of the hill. Here the company commander rejoined them. He lost no time in sending a runner to tell his battalion commander of the situation. The runner got through all right, and returned before very long with a message from the major to the effect that the company would withdraw to a position south of Cunel.

These instructions had come to the battalion from higher headquarters. The battalion commander felt that such an order was most unusual. And to make sure that it was not a mistake or some trick of the enemy, he had the message verified before ordering his battalion to comply with it. After this, he concluded that the area to the south was probably considered more suitable for the jump-off for a general attack to be delivered later. True, his battalion was somewhat disorganized—to be expected

under the circumstances—but the Bois de la Pultière was virtually in his hands. The companies could easily reorganize under cover of the approaching darkness and hold the ground gained.

Just the same, it turned out to be a good thing this time to pull the battalion back. The troops were hardly out of the woods when a terrific artillery fire descended upon the entire area. After giving the Bois de la Pultière thorough strafing, the Germans lifted their fire to the new positions of the 3d Battalion just about the time the troops had regained them. The battalion commander issued hurried orders for the reorganization of the area, including safety measures against the artillery fire. In compliance with this the commander of Company M distributed his men in shell holes in small groups and told the men to dig out of sight. This done, there was nothing for it but to stick to cover until the next morning brought whatever it would. Anyway the work accomplished during the day just past would make the going easier on the day to come.

* * *

The officer who commanded Company M was Lieutenant Samuel Woodfill. For this day's work he was ordered to appear at Chaumont, and there at GHQ was decorated with the Congressional Medal of Honor. Many foreign decorations followed.

When, in 1920, Sam Woodfill was appointed as the Infantry pallbearer for the Unknown Soldier, General Pershing paid him tribute by saying: "Here is America's greatest Doughboy!"

THE INDIVIDUAL RIFLEMAN

"WHAT WITH TANKS, machine guns, mortars, grenades, automatic rifles, et cetera, it does seem that the rifleman has been driven back into his last ditch, the one he came from in the days when America *was* a 'Nation of Riflemen.' If he is to survive at all, it must be because of his ability to go into battle *as an individual,* even though surrounded and flanked by thousands of other fighting soldiers. To be of any practical service whatever, he must be able to take advantage of cover, able to search out individual men of the enemy and, in the midst of all the turmoil of battle, to shoot and *hit* these individual targets.

"It is not easy. Having tried it, I know.

"But, by all the Gods of war, it can be done—and it is up to the riflemen of America, the real riflemen, who are really and truly endeavoring to fit themselves for war service, not only to qualify themselves, but to encourage a system that shall make available to as many men as possible, training that fosters the growth and development of the basic qualities that go into the making of a real rifleman.

"When you have a good rifleman you have a man who is confident of his ability to take care of himself; the quality pertains not to the rifle, but to himself; so you have a man who can quickly be turned to doing anything. The rifle, of course, is the primary arm. It belongs peculiarly to the individual soldier; it goes wherever he goes; it is not spent, put out of action, or impossible to get into hands in time. The man who most thoroughly understands its use and appreciates its possibilities will be the first to recognize its limitations and adapt himself to something else when needed. He is not trained to win the war with the rifle, but to win the war. He is a hunter and fighter; not a specialist who is at a loss when his specialty fails him.

"The net result of my observations, for practical purposes, may be reduced to a single remark: That men behaved well in proportion as they felt themselves equal to the occasion—again, the rifleman. The man who *knows* he can shoot and *hit* will get himself out of a bad hole."—Captain Herbert W. McBride in *A Rifleman Went to War.*

N. R. A. DIRECTORS MEET

ALL PRETEXT OF "business as usual" in the target shooting sport was abandoned for the duration of the War by the Board of Directors and Executive Committee of the National Rifle Association in their 71st annual meeting at Washington, February 6 and 7. By unanimous vote the Directors recommended that the competitive shooting program be curtailed at the discretion of the Executive Committee and that body, on the following day, moved to designate no tournaments as "Official Regional or National Championships during 1942." The Board also ruled that "until such time as arms and ammunition are again available" the efforts of the Association shall be directed toward the training of prospective members of our armed forces and toward civilian defense interests.

The Directors elevated Superior Court Judge Hilliard Comstock of Santa Rosa, California, to the Presidency of the Association after accepting with regret the request of Lieutenant Colonel Nathaniel C. Nash, Jr., of Boston, that he be relieved of those duties after a year in office. The election of Judge Comstock, who has served as Vice-President for the past year, is significant since he is the first West Coast representative ever to hold that office. Named to the Vice-Presidency was Thurman Randle, popular Dallas, Texas, sporting goods dealer and veteran small bore competitor. Major General Milton A. Reckord was re-elected Executive Vice-President, a post he has held since 1926 and, for the second successive year, was placed on leave of absence while in active service as Commanding General of the Third Corps Area. The additional executive duties created by General Reckord's absence again will be assumed by C. B. Lister, re-elected Secretary-Treasurer. L. Q. Bradley was re-elected Assistant Secretary.

Colonel Nash was elected to the Executive Council and Major F. W. Parker, Jr., Raymond C. Bracken, Brigadier General J. S. Hatcher, J. W. Woolrey, Colonel F. C. Endicott, Lieutenant Colonel M. A. Edson, Fred C. Mills, Lieutenant Colonel Payson D. Foster, E. N. Littleton, R. K. Stritzinger and R. B. Whitaker were elected members of the Executive Committee.

The decision to curtail competitions highlighted the discussions of the Friday Board meeting, and while most NRA members will feel the effects of this ruling, it did not include any limitations on Class "B" State tournaments or Class "C" local matches. However, the Executive Committee did rule to temporarily discontinue the national rankings since they obviously could not be conducted on the same basis as in past years. It was not considered advisable to attempt any other system since these rankings have been restricted to Master competitors only and it is from this group of shooters that the nucleus of trained instructors should be drawn. With training activity the major consideration there will be neither sufficient ammunition or time for the same extensive match participation as in the past.

The Directors made their recommendations to the Executive Committee on 1942 competitions following discussion of the ammunition and national defense problems. They heard Colonel Endicott, the Director of Civilian Marksmanship, advise that his office as well as the National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice was being continued by action of Undersecretary of War Patterson despite drastic curtailments in their activities. He quoted a letter in which the Undersecretary stated that he intends to continue the D.C.M. "and eventually to resume and probably to increase the support of rifle practice by civilian citizens."

The attempts of the Association during the past year to cooperate with the War Department and the Office of Civilian Defense and the possibility of closer affiliation with those groups during the coming year were discussed. The Directors agreed that N. R. A. members and clubs could best serve the country as instructors in small arms marksmanship and safety and as personnel of auxiliary police and plant protective forces. General Reckord acknowledged the necessary restrictions in the supply of all types of ammunition at the present time, the uncertainty of future supplies and the importance of a program of civilian training in offering the resolution which curtailed competition and, in the Association's activities, gave priority to that training.

A further competitive restriction was taken later as the Board adopted a resolution introduced by Henry Reid declaring that "it is the sense of this Board that participation in the 1942 Pan-American Games by United States Rifle or Pistol Teams is inadvisable. . . ."

In acting on the Directors' resolutions the Executive Committee set into motion the next day the N. R. A.'s all-out defense effort.

Following those resolutions the Executive Committee heard the charges preferred against Joseph Corr, Philadelphia Police Officer, incident to his conduct while competing in a Registered Pistol Tournament sponsored by the North End Rod and Gun Club, Allentown, Pennsylvania, last September 14. In accordance with a subsequent motion unanimously adopted by the Committee the charges, findings and sentence against Mr. Corr are published in THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN:

The Secretary,
National Rifle Association of America,
Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR:

SUBJECT: Charges against Joseph Corr.

Under the N. R. A. Pistol Rules as revised to January 1, 1941 (Special Bulletin No. 308-B), I regret that it is my duty to prefer charges against Police Officer Joseph Corr, of the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Police Pistol Team.

The incident on which the charges are based occurred during the firing of the timed fire stage of the Center-Fire National Match Course event at the N. R. A. Registered Tournament conducted by the Captain Ralph Scott Pistol Division of the North End Rod and Gun Club at Allentown, Pa., on Sunday, September 14, 1941. Following the completion of the timed fire stage of this event and while scorers and target pasters were working at the target butts, Officer Corr loaded his revolver while standing at the firing point and fired two shots in the direction of an airplane which was flying over the range.

Officer Corr is charged with violation of National Rifle Association Shooting Rules and Regulations in accordance with the following specifications:

Specification No. 1: Violation of Rules 5-14 and 7-3, in that he loaded his revolver at the firing point without proper command from the Range Officer.

Specification No. 2: Violation of Rule 7-4, in that he loaded his revolver, closed the action and fired the gun without the command "Load" having been given.

Specification No. 3: Violation of Rule 7-14, in that he was

(Continued on page 30)

An Editorial

TOO MUCH DEFENSE!

IT IS CHARACTERISTIC of a democracy never to talk, during peace time, about preparations for war. Because democracies are fundamentally peace-loving, their military preparations are always spoken of as preparedness for defense. True, we pay lip service to offensive warfare by repeating to ourselves "the best defense is an offense," but we consistently refuse to make the advance preparations necessary to the undertaking of an immediate offensive when war is declared.

The strength of the aggressor nations lies in their realistic preparations for an *offensive* war.

The weakness of the united democracies lies in their idealistic—and half-hearted—preparations for a *defensive* war.

The American people have smugly condemned the French for reliance on the Maginot Line without recognizing the fact that the Maginot Line was the result of a "national defense" psychology exactly paralleling our own in which we have relied on the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans as defense barriers.

We have roundly condemned the smug complacency of the British in the face of repeated defeats without recognizing the fact that British war policy has been the result of a similar "national defense" psychology which viewed the British Fleet as the impregnable wall behind which Britain lay secure.

Even after Pearl Habor *our* entire civilian defense organization was built on the avowed lines of "passive defense."

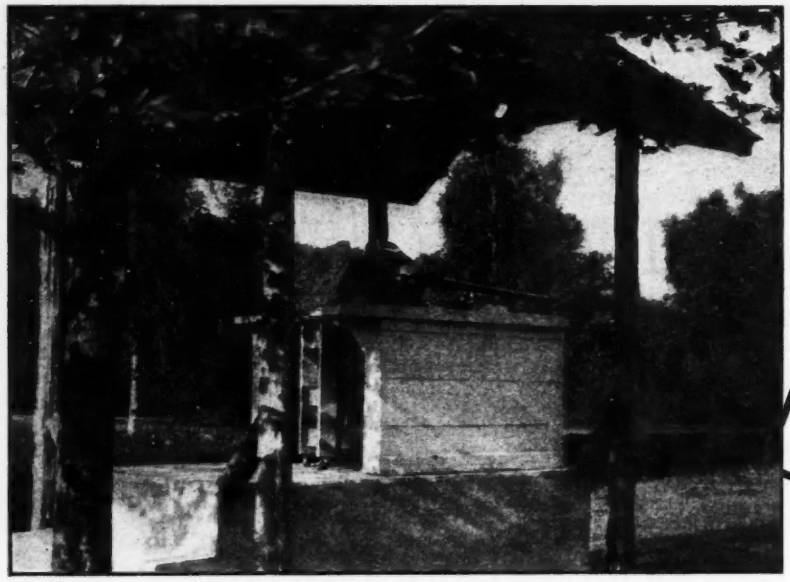
Even after Dunkirk, Crete, Libya, Pearl Harbor, Guam, Wake, Hong Kong, and Singapore, the British and the American officials—and large portions of the citizens of both nations—complacently speak of "stronger defenses" while Germany and Japan strike with sharper *offensives!* There appears the nasty possibility that *complacency* is being mistaken for *courage* in these democracies! It is one thing to have the courage to take it on the chin and come back *fighting*, carrying the battle to the other fellow in the next round. It is quite *another* thing to become complacent about taking it on the chin in the smug belief that the other fellow will eventually wear *himself* out!

Complacency says "the British never win a battle but they never lose a war." Complacency says "the United States has never lost a war." Courage says "neither England nor the United States has ever won a war against a major power until help from some other major power was forthcoming." Courage says "we *can* lose this war and complacency is the Fifth Columnist who can defeat us."

Courage says we *will* win this war but only at the cost of a million American lives which would not have needed to be spent had we talked less complacently of "national defense" and more courageously of a nation at WAR!

The "Business as usual" sign must come out of the window to be replaced by the flag with the Service Star. The idea that victory can be bought with dollars must give way to the intent to win with blood and personal sacrifice.

Americans, if you would preserve your Nation and those things for which it stands, cast "defense" out of your vocabulary. Speak instead in the unpleasant but realistic language of "offense" and steel your courage for the cost in sons, brothers, husbands and fathers that must now be paid because we have too long worshipped at the false shrine of gun-shy "defense!"
—C. B. L.



Shooting the muzzle-loaders is a sport full of surprises. Here is a tale of three ancient firearms, and how they performed for a modern target shooter.

OLD GUNS *and* NEW LOADS

By Ralph G. Packard, Jr.

The last few years have seen a notable revival of interest in the shooting of flintlock and percussion muzzle-loading rifles. With the idea of going back of this period even, I decided to try shooting the older guns, that is, matchlocks and wheellocks, to see what they would do. With this in mind, I had George Hyde, the gunsmith, recondition and put in working order two matchlocks, one wheellock rifle, and a wheellock pistol, all from my own collection. We made careful measurement of the bores of these guns and had bullet molds made for them by the Ideal Company of a size that could just be forced down the bore with a thin oiled-linen patch.

In none of the older shooting books in my library could I find any definite data on the length of range or accuracy of these guns. *The History of the Hand Gun in the 15th and 16th Centuries* by R. Coltman Clephan gave only a description of the guns, the making of gunpowder at that time, and a description of various matchlocks and wheellocks in museums, but nothing in regard to what these guns would do. *The Exercise of Arms for Calivres, Muskettes, and Pikes* by Jacob de Geyn, which is printed in English, French, German and Flemish, my copy dated 1608, was equally unproductive, as was Robert Ward's *Animadversions of Warre,* printed in London in 1639. These last two books were published at a time when the smoothbore matchlock was the standard infantry arm, and the wheellock pistol the standard for cavalry over practically the whole of Europe. They are entirely drill books for the loading and use of the matchlock caliver and the wheellock pistol, but neither of them stated what accuracy these guns actually were capable of.

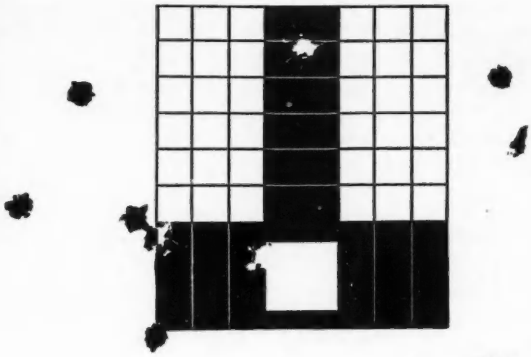
Among the arms in my collection is an English flintlock army musket, dated 1758. The "Brown Bess" of the British Army, this weapon was for a hundred years the standard issue English infantry weapon. The barrel is 42 inches long and the size of the bore 11 gauge. The powder charge was 70 grains and the round ball weighed 490 grains. This last data is taken from *The Gun and Its Development* by W. W. Greener, 9th edition, 1910.

In *The Gun* by William Greener, printed in 1835, it is recorded that "with the musket fired perfectly horizontal, on a level plane, supported by a rest at the height of five feet the ball struck the ground at just 130 yards". Greener in his *Gun and Its Development,* 9th edition, speaks of a test between a musket of this type, made in 1792, and the bow and arrow. The range was a hundred yards, the bow placing sixteen arrows out of twenty in the target, and the musket hitting the target with only twelve bullets out of twenty.

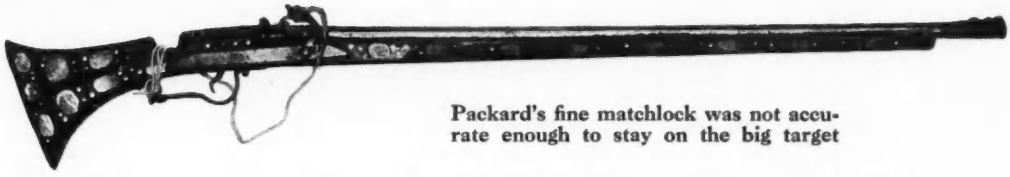
In *The Story of the Guns,* published in 1864, Sir James Emerson Tennent notes that a series of experiments were undertaken by a board appointed by the British Army in 1838, to determine the efficiency of the flintlock army musket. This musket was the same as that I have above described. The target used in these tests was 3 feet wide and 11 feet 6 inches high and was struck by three-quarters of the balls fired at a range of 150 yards. Beyond this distance the difficulty of hitting the target was so great that its width was increased to 6 feet and at 250 yards in ten consecutive shots no hits were made.

The reason I have described this flintlock musket and quoted what authorities I have on its accuracy is that its ballistics should be almost those of the matchlock used in this test. As the barrel of my matchlock is about the same length and the bore about the same size, the powder charge I used was 70 grains of King's semi-smokeless. The accuracy of the matchlock I shot should, however, be considered somewhat superior to that of the English army musket because I used a ball that properly fitted the bore, while the English bullet was made somewhat smaller than the bore to insure quick and easy loading in a dirty gun.

Match-cord for this gun was made by boiling a piece of 3/16-inch sash cord for several hours in a solution of saltpeter. This made a very good match, which kept lit



The next arm to be tested was a German wheellock rifle from my collection, made in Munich probably at the beginning of the XVIIth century. This gun has a nicely figured walnut stock with a horn cap at the end, an octagon barrel and a projecting iron knob in the upper end of the horn butt plate. This round knob I removed when shooting so the flat end of the stock would rest against my shoulder. The stock is of French or Italian walnut with a very good figure, carved and decorated with strips of horn. In holding this gun the right hand did not go around the stock, but the right thumb rested on a thumb piece, the fingers going into grooves in the guard.



Packard's fine matchlock was not accurate enough to stay on the big target

in the wind and burned slowly. The only trouble with it was that the ash hardened so much that it had to be knocked off before firing. The stock on this gun is a bad shape, being too straight and the comb too high, which made it difficult to get my face down low enough to line up with the sights. The bullets were of such diameter that they could be forced down the bore by a heavy brass loading rod made for the purpose. The patch was of thin linen, one thickness and oiled. All surplus material that stuck up around the bullet was trimmed off when it was entered into the barrel. The load consisted of 70 grains of King's semi-smokeless powder for the propelling charge, and Dupont 4 F rifle powder for priming. I loaded the gun, primed it, closed the pan cover, and then put in the lighted match. After the sights were lined up on the target, I opened the pan cover and squeezed the trigger, which had a very long travel. It was not safe to have the pan cover open with a lighted match until the instant of pressing the trigger; before I learned this I had several premature ignitions. I had no misfires with this gun.

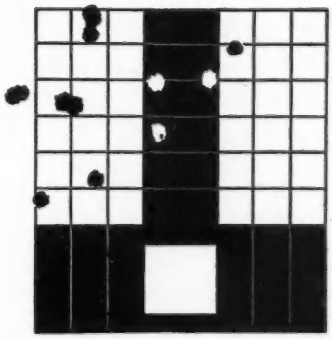
The ten-shot group I got was made at a range of 50 yards, with muzzle and elbow rest from my shooting bench. The target used was of boards 2 feet wide and 3 feet high on which was tacked a paper target used by the Remington Arms Company for testing their rifles. This has an inverted T in black; the bottom of this inverted T is 8 inches long and 3 inches high, the vertical shank 2 inches wide and 6 inches high. In the center of the horizontal part is a 2 inch square in white. This white square at the bottom was the point of aim. The same type of target and the same point of aim was used in making the group for the wheellock rifle which is described later on.

I tried one other matchlock that I have; this is a rifled wall gun, dated 1602. The trigger motion was so bad that I only shot it a few times and could not do much with it.

The gun has double set-triggers with a set-screw adjustment. This is a very good set trigger mechanism—so good, as a matter of fact, that George Hyde made a sketch of it with the idea of using it in a modern target rifle. There is a small pin driven into the stock about half an inch to the right of the set-trigger and directly opposite. In letting off the gun the trigger finger is held against this fixed pin at the bend of the first joint, which makes possible a very light and steady pressure on the set-trigger. The front sight is a small brass bead in a horizontal notch in the barrel, which can be driven sideways for horizontal adjustment. The rear sight is an open fixed notch with two hinged leaves for elevation. The barrel is 31½ inches long, with a bore of about .50 caliber, rifled with seven very deep grooves. The cock and lock plate are elaborately engraved, showing a cardgame scene. Engraved on the lock is P. DAISENPERGER and MUNICH. The powder-flask is combined with a socket, thus making a key for setting the wheel, and is made of two chamois horns, side by side, connected on the top with a brass cap. There is a metal tail from the end of this combined key and powder flask which forms a screwdriver.

In reconditioning this gun the wheel was so worn from use that I had to have Hyde make a new one. The barrel was badly corroded around the touch hole so we put in a bushing, making the touch hole of what we thought the

The wheellock and a ten-shot group



proper size through the bushing. Ignition of the wheellock can be handled with both flint and iron pyrites, but flint soon wears out the wheel and is not nearly as good as the pyrites. I got a large pyrites crystal and was able to break it up with hammer and chisel to make ignition stones. In loading this gun the cock was first raised, then the wheel rotated by the key until the pawl caught; the charge of powder was poured down the barrel and the bullet with its greased patch forced down with a heavy brass loading rod made for the purpose. The priming powder was run into the pan and the cock then lowered so the stone rested on the edge of the wheel with its surrounding priming powder. The trigger was then set and the gun fired. In shooting this rifle and also the matchlock I did not attempt to readjust the sights from their original position. The target illustrated gives an idea of what such a XVIIth century sporting gun was capable of.

This XVIth century wheellock pistol was the only handgun tried by Packard. Lack of sights made accuracy in firing all but impossible

I tried next an early wheellock pistol—a German arm, made some time during the latter half of the XVIth century. The stock is of ebony, inlaid with ivory strips, with a ball-butt about 3 inches in diameter, inlaid with ivory circles and lines and with an engraved ivory plate on the rear end of the ball. The pistol has an efficient safety located on the left side and operated by the thumb. The lock has the wheel enclosed in a box on the outside of the lock plate with a perforated steel cover. The barrel is 13 inches long, the length overall 21 inches, smooth bore, caliber about half-an-inch. There are no sights.

The loading of this pistol was carried out in exactly the same manner as that of the wheellock rifle previously described. I shot the pistol offhand in the usual position at a range of 25-yards. Although the pistol functioned perfectly, I could not make any kind of a group. The last time I tried it, shooting twelve consecutive shots, I hit a two-by-three foot board target only three times out of the twelve. Doubtless the fact that the pistol had no sights at all had something to do with this lack of accuracy!

One finds that in shooting either the matchlock or the wheellock there is an appreciable lapse of time between squeezing the trigger and the ignition of the propelling charge, during which interval the sights have to be kept accurately lined up on the target. For this reason it is almost impossible to shoot the matchlock or the wheellock with any accuracy unless from a rest, and any attempt at strictly offhand shooting with either of these types of guns would take a great deal more practice and training than with guns of the more modern flintlock type.

Another thing that caused great inaccuracy with these old guns was the very loose fit of the bullets. With the flimsy wooden ramrods with which these old guns were equipped, I doubt that it was possible to force a properly fitting bullet down the barrel, especially after the bore was dirty from previous shooting. In firing both with the matchlock and the flintlock, the bullets I used were a very tight fit and loaded with a single thickness of thin oiled-linen patch. Even then the bullet sometimes had to be started by hammering on a short loading rod for about a foot and then shoving it down the rest of the way with a heavy brass loading rod made for the purpose.

KENTUCKY RIFLE ACCURACY:

"I never in my life saw better rifles (or men who shot better) than those made in America. . . . I am not going to relate anything respecting the American war; but to mention one instance, as a proof of most excellent skill of an American rifleman. If any man shew me an instance of better shooting, I will stand corrected.

"Colonel, now General Tarleton, and myself, were standing a few yards out of a wood, observing the situation of a part of the enemy which we intended to attack. Our orderly-bugle stood behind us. . . . A rifleman passed over the mill dam, evidently observing two officers, and laid himself down on his belly; for, in such positions, they always lie, to take a good shot at a long distance. He took a deliberate and cool shot at my friend and me, and the bugle-horn man. Now, observe how well this fellow shot. I can positively assert that the distance he fired from, at us, was full four hundred yards. Colonel Tarleton's horse and mine, I am certain, were not anything like two feet apart. . . . A rifle ball passed between him and me: looking directly to the mill, I evidently observed the flash of the powder. I directly said to my friend, 'I think we had better move, or we shall have two or three of these gentlemen, shortly, amusing themselves at our expense!' The words were hardly out of my mouth, when the bugle-horn man, behind us, and directly central, jumped off his horse, and said, 'Sir, my horse is shot.' The horse staggered, fell down, and died."—Colonel George Hangar (Fourth Baron Coleraine), *To All Sportsmen*, London, 1814.

Sgt. Joe McCann *on*

AIRPORT DEFENSE

Here's a vital job — made to order for the target shooter!

THIS DERN WAR has brought a lot of things home to us, eh?—among them being, one of the fustest and fo'mostest, the need for adequate civilian riflemen to defend our airports, farm lands, and any other big flat stretches of ground where parachute troops could land—either by the handful or by the division.

You know, for a while a lot of the big shots—including some of the brasshats in our own War Department—were inclined to pooh-pooh the importance of riflemen in 1942-style warfare. "The tanks are doing what the Infantry used to do," they said. (Which is true. Nowadays the tanks lead the assault against the enemy's prepared positions. That is, when you have the necessary tanks to do it.) "The Infantry as we know it now is doomed to obsolescence, and finally oblivion," they continued, warming up to the subject. "A line of men armed with rifles is a thing of the past. In this war the defensive line will be made up of heavy team-weapons, capable of stopping a tank, plus a few riflemen strung around each position for local security of the crew."

Right there the minor prophets slipped up on their logic. If the tanks are going to do all the advancing, what good is even a local-security detachment of riflemen? They realized back in their obstinate heads that team-weapons could be stormed by Infantry advancing on foot or by motor in these days just as well as they were in the last war, and they figured out a provision for the possibility.

Those fellows failed to realize something which years of military training and experience should make perfectly clear to them—that a well-balanced combat unit must contain all the varied weapons which it is possible to include. When a new and heavier line is developed, it must be added in the proper place, but it must not be hailed as the greatest thing yet and made to do away with the old trusties. It seems fairly certain that as long as rifles will kill people, people will continue to fight with them, and that appears to be for quite a few weeks yet, looking from where I sit.

But I'm getting away from my subject. (I always do when I get to thinking about those guys who want to melt up all the rifles and cast them into tanks or airplanes. Makes me as mad as a wisecrack about St. Patrick!)

What I want to discuss mostly is the very real danger of enemy parachute operations in continental territory of the United States, and what the shooters who read the RIFLEMAN can do as an aid toward solving these problems.

Those unidentified planes that flew over San Francisco; they were Japanese all right. I figure that they came from aircraft carriers far out in the Pacific; they had to travel so far that the necessary gasoline load prohibited a bomb-load. They came in, sez me, to see what sort of anti-aircraft activities they would stir up, and to take a few snapshots of West-coast cities at night—those light patterns are highly individualistic, you know, and easy to identify in spite of the minor differences from night to night.

But that bomb-prohibiting load was necessary ONLY because those planes had to have enough gas for a return trip. If the return gas were left out, they could pack up close to half-a-dozen parachute troops, fully armed, in one of those carrier-borne planes. And if that plane could find some undefended civilian airport, or one where the ground crew maybe carried only pistols, it could drop its load of parachutists and let them clear the way for the plane to land, gas up, and take off again with the jumpers snuggled safely inside. Of course, while they were waiting for the gas to be taken on, they could be tearing up a few million dollars worth of planes, radio and telephone communications, repair facilities and fuel.

They might even bring pilots to fly off any planes which happen to be around. Sounds fantastic, doesn't it? But such things have been done, both in Europe and in China. A plane showing a friendly insignia comes in and lands; men in the uniforms of friendly air corps officers get out, walk over to other planes, and before anyone realizes what has happened all of them have taken off for the enemy bases. I mention that particularly with shooters in mind, because it's my guess that sooner or later practically every one of them is going to be called on to stand guard at one of our landing fields. And in that case they should be on the lookout for just such a stunt.

When the Army goes in for defending an airfield, it goes a little further than civilians ordinarily could. They assign Infantry to the job (shouldn't that make somebody feel kinda foolish?), and the size of the force detailed for a particular field may run from a reinforced squad for an emergency landing area where there are relatively few installations of value, to a battalion or more for one of the highly developed, criss-crossed, graded and turfed air bases that are right now springing up overnight all over the country.

The system of defense for the lowliest example and for the greatest is built on the same old principles of Infantry technique that have held good from the days of the Roman legions and the Swiss mercenaries. But the application has some new twists.

The reinforced squad I mentioned probably will consist of a heavy or light .30-caliber machine gun and crew of three, all armed with pistols and the number 3 man of the team probably toting a Garand rifle as well; a sergeant and a corporal, one or both armed with a Thompson submachine gun and pistols, and ten or a dozen riflemen who may or may not be equipped with Colt .45's.

They will select a point on the perimeter of the landing field area which is free of any kind of structure or good natural landmark in the vicinity (so as not to invite bombardment or strafing), which is higher than the surrounding terrain if possible, and which offers the greatest coverage of the entire area by observation. There they will set up their machine gun.

The machine gun position which they will organize is not quite like any combat emplacement ever seen in previous wars, or in the ordinary Infantry lines of this war. It is dug in deep enough for an ordinary man standing inside to be able to get the dead level of his eye across the top. In other words, he is as far down in the ground as he can get and still see all the terrain to be covered with his fire. The pit is circular, or nearly so, roughly seven feet across at the top and six or six-three at the bottom.

The gun atop its mount should be barely visible to the eye at ground level, with the barrel in the horizontal position. Then, when elevated for anti-aircraft fire, the entire barrel is visible, while the receiver is down out of sight.

Now, what have we got? A machine gun which can fire almost straight up or in a grazing line along the ground, or anywhere in between, and in any direction. With all clamps loose, it can be swung with the pressure of one finger through a 360-degree arc at ground level and almost 90 degrees overhead. In short, it can shoot in any direction there is except straight down, and that wouldn't do any good nohow.

The position is so constructed that the gunner can stay directly behind the gun, no matter in what direction he wishes to fire, and he may change his line of fire through a full 180 degrees in half a shake, merely by scooting around the mount.

That gun is for anti-aircraft firing if the enemy should send over a transport plane carrying parachutists—possibly preceding it with light bombardment or strafing. Strafing planes are at a decided disadvantage against such a position, for their machine guns are fixed to fire in the line of travel of the plane and they can fire on the position only by diving straight at it. The ground gunner has the plane for a target from the time it comes in view until it has roared overhead, and he might even be quick enough to send a parting burst into the tail by swinging around the mount. On the other hand, the gunner is a target only for a split second when the fixed guns of the plane are covering the few inches of his head that are exposed above the sandbags. I'd a whole heck of a lot rather be on the ground in a duel like that.

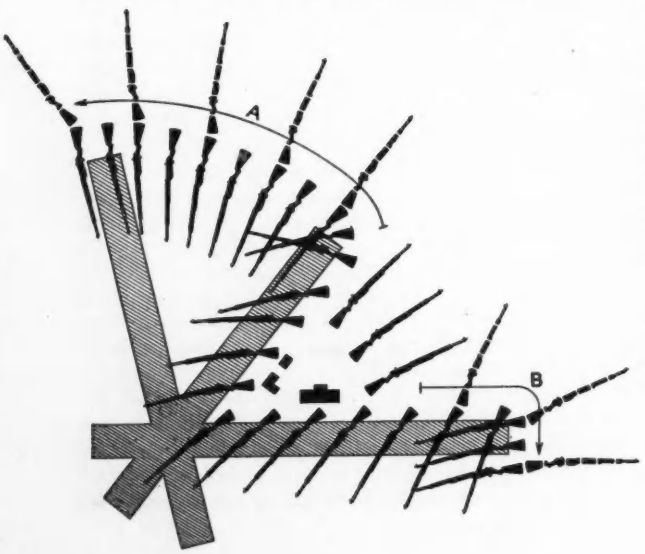
The riflemen, all but two or three who are spotted near the machine gun to provide it with local security, are strung around the long and short side of the field from the gun, to knock off parachutists as fast as they pop out of the transports, or as they reach the ground. The machine gun helps with this job after all planes are downed or out of range.

It's important there to see that the line of riflemen does not extend more than an approximate 180 degrees around the perimeter of the field, for otherwise their ground-fire would begin to cross itself, and the extreme flank men would be shooting at each other. The same principle is observed in the most highly-organized positions at the largest air bases.

When a full-strength Infantry company organizes a field, it follows the same pattern except that it has from nine to possibly twenty or more machine guns to emplace. These are spotted at intervals varying with the dimensions of the field and the number of guns available, as well as the local circumstances as to the amount of high ground, foliage and landmarks. When multiple guns are used, they ordinarily assign certain guns to fire on planes, while others provide grazing fire along the ground against landing parachutists or dismounting air-borne infantry which may have been lucky enough to get down all in one piece. The riflemen are strung out between the guns, along the same general line, with the same missions as for the smallest unit.

The individual shapes which airfields sometimes take may mean complications. A good many have three runways, touching each other at the ends and forming a huge triangle. If the hangars, repair shops and administration buildings are inside this triangle, then the line of defenders can be safely placed on the inside of each runway. When the field takes the form of a T, the riflemen should be strung out on the lower sides of the cross and either side of the standard. An X-shaped field needs two wedges of shooters, fitting into the two sharper angles of the figure.

While all these things are subject to variation in view of the individual characteristics of the ground, the construction of the individual rifleman's position is just about standard in all cases and climes. He should have a foxhole, not of the usual Infantry type, but somewhat larger.



The fan-shaped runway, with principal directions of fire indicated. Positions along A and B have secondary sectors of fire to rear, and are indicated by "dotted" rifles

It should be roughly elliptical, up to five feet the long way and half that the short way. One-half of the hole should be deep enough for the rifleman to stand erect in and take good, comfortable aim, with his rifle lying across the sandbags at the top. The other half should be deep enough for him to sit in, using the sitting firing position. Generally, the deeper half will be about five feet down, and the other side will be about half that or slightly less. Each half must allow him to fire in all directions and overhead with equal ease, so the position must be located well away from trees, bushes, buildings or any other interference with all-round vision.

You can't give exact figures on these things. The best way is to explain to each man what is wanted in the way of results, and then let him dig his pit to suit his own body. Some like sandbags packed tight together all around, others prefer to lay their rifles between bags. There is little choice between the two from a standpoint of safety, though the latter tends to restrict vision somewhat.

The stepdown that will be left between the two halves of this kind of a foxhole provides a natural chair in which the shooter can sit comfortably during an aerial bombardment or strafing.

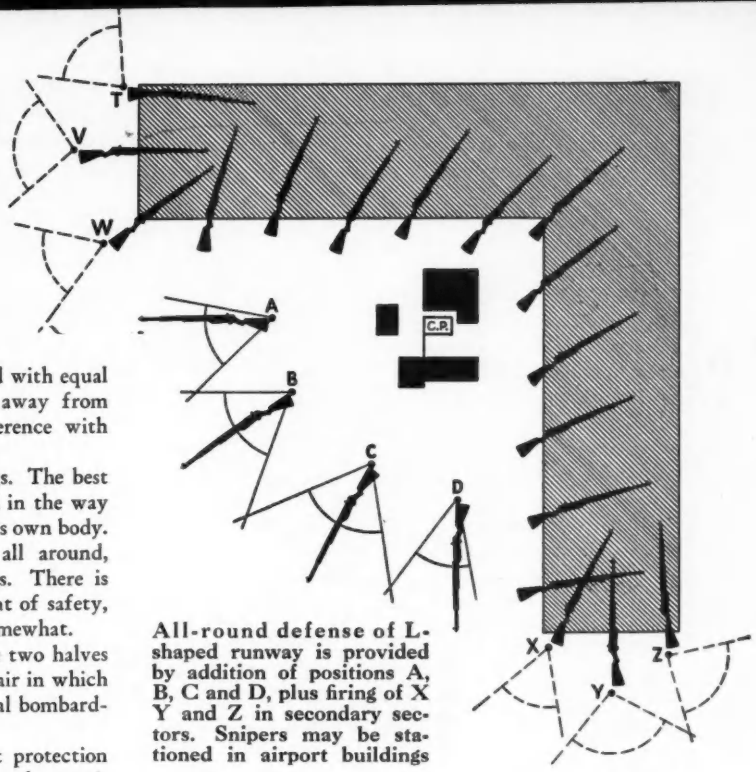
Incidentally, a standing foxhole is the best protection there is during a bombardment. A cover over the top is useless, for a direct hit by a medium or heavy bomb will clear out everything below to a depth of ten to thirty feet. Yet one which falls nearby can do nothing more than send its deadly splinters whizzing harmlessly overhead. That is, if you are outside the range of concussion, which if great enough can kill a man without breaking his skin.

One refinement of this foxhole which the Infantry sometimes uses is a level cave cut out at right angles at the bottom, far enough to allow the occupant to lie down for a bit of shut-eye. When you must sit in a foxhole for days, maybe weeks, it comes in handy. But the raids which the NRA shooters will be called on to handle will come within a few hours of the alarm, or not at all.

If there is a nearby depression or gully, it makes an ideal spot for installing a field kitchen, storing extra ammunition and equipment reserves, setting up headquarters and such. In a highly organized position, each man will dig a shallow trench to connect his position with this headquarters direct, or with another position which will lead him to it, so that he can crawl the entire way without exposing his body above the level of the ground. This seems rather unnecessary in airfield defense, except possibly in cases where the airfield is near the ocean and within reach of artillery fire from any bridge-head which the enemy might establish through a beach landing.

Here is a little trick which is worthwhile anywhere: a cache about twelve inches square, cut into the side of a foxhole to a depth of 18 to 20 inches, makes an ideal repository for extra ammunition, gun-patches and gun oil, food, magazines and newspapers, spare parts and the many other little items that a man needs when he must stay in one place for hours on end and watch, watch, watch. The cache should be about half-way up from the floor, so water won't drain into it.

If local conditions permit, it might be wise to leave certain non-perishable items in the positions so that there will be less to think about and less to carry when the defenders are called out in a big hurry. Ammunition, if properly wrapped, could be left indefinitely without danger of corrosion. Two or three cans of emergency ration might come in handy some day. Added security may be gained by plugging up the cache with a square wooden door, something on the order of a bung.



All-round defense of L-shaped runway is provided by addition of positions A, B, C and D, plus firing of X Y and Z in secondary sectors. Snipers may be stationed in airport buildings

Now, what about those hundreds of fields all over the country which are not being used at all by the Army except for secondary or emergency landing areas, and which the Army cannot defend because it hasn't enough men to adequately accomplish all the other jobs it is facing right now?

That's where the shooters who read the RIFLEMAN, who go to Camp Perry every summer, or at least the local matches, who have some sort of rifle or shotgun or pistol which they keep oiled and primed as a hobby, can fill an important gap in national defense. There should be a plan for the defense of every one of those fields, particularly the ones near the sea-coasts, and some effort should be made to organize positions before it's too late. There isn't enough time to dig a foxhole when word comes that enemy planes are only about sixty minutes flying time away, you know.

I don't think it would be amiss for every shooting club in the country to pick the likeliest spot in its vicinity for parachutists to be landed, and then spend a couple of Sundays planning for the defense of the area, digging positions, storing ammunition, camouflaging their works and devising a minute-man alarm system and transportation plan for getting everybody out of his house and down to the area on the shortest notice.

Curiously enough, those same rifle ranges which many of the shooting clubs built with their own hands offer ideal places for parachute landings. Should be some real doings if the enemy would try one some bright Sunday morning when range practice was going on, eh?

There are enough Army officers scattered all over the

country these days to provide all the technical advice needed in local planning of positions. Every one of them has a handbook in his field-service pocketbook which gives the formula for determining the number of picks, shovels and axes needed to dig an emplacement of a given size, in a given type of soil. He can make a brief survey of any project, advise professionally on the selections of the positions and other tactical matters, tell you what tools you'll need and how many, how you should attempt to camouflage, and how long it will take you to complete the job. And most of the ones I know will more than likely roll up their sleeves and lend a hand with the digging.

But when civilians set out to defend an air field, it's almost certain that they won't have any machine guns or other automatic weapons, in which case the whole action will depend on the individual weapons, and individual weapons are many times more effective if used as a team.

How to organize when you have no key automatic weapons to reply to attacking aircraft? The answer is, just like the riflemen of an Infantry unit, as though the team weapons were there. You don't need to be able to fight back against bombs and strafing. If you sit down in the deeper part of your foxhole the planes can't touch you with machine gun fire in a hundred years, and the chances of getting a direct hit by a bomb are negligible. Anyway, it's more than likely that the enemy will be counting on surprise rather than a preparatory attack to cover his parachutists in their descent, in which case you can just bide your time and open fire after they have jumped. You wouldn't have much chance of bringing down a plane with rifle fire anyway, though such a thing has been done.

After the entire defense project has been resolved, the positions dug, the fresh-turned earth sodded over and any other camouflage put into effect, it should be fun for the club to hold a little maneuver of its own. Go out at the alert signal and spend an entire day at the field, moving from positions to distributing points under cover for food and ammunition, clean and oil weapons while in the foxholes, and test the entire arrangement for practicality. Here again an Army officer would be a help as an umpire. The day could be capped off by firing at some field targets in the form of dummies strewn along the landing area at intervals of 50 to 100 yards, about like the pattern of parachute troops as they land.

And, in that connection, here are some pointers on potting parachutists:

First, they are most vulnerable from the moment they leave the door of the plane until the time they have assembled on the ground. Now, that business of assembling on the ground may look simple, but it is far from that. Bad jumpmastering or tricky wind currents may put some of them in trees or on the other side of objects which conceal them from their comrades. Even if they make perfect landings, the men at each end of a line of 20 or more will have a quarter of a mile or so to run before they can reassemble. If the ground is rolling, they will have difficulty knowing which way to move for the assembly.

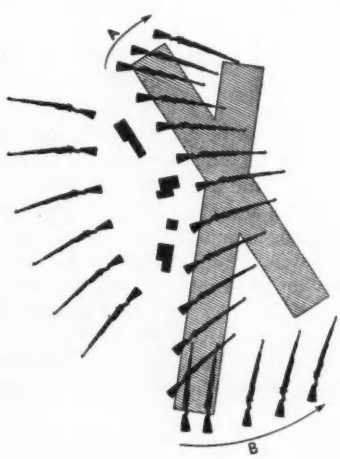
After they get together, and get themselves oriented, and set up their automatic weapons, they're tough cookies to handle. I can tell you that first-hand. But until then they are just individuals, probably somewhat confused and as easy to overcome as any others. The defending force has a tremendous advantage here IF it has previously prepared positions which give maximum protection, and IF it is waiting in these positions when the attack begins. The parachutist on landing finds himself out in the clear and completely exposed to fire, with nothing larger than a rifle to defend himself, and with people shooting at him who are exposing nothing but the bill of a leather cap.

I would not suggest that the average shooter attempt to get a parachutist in the air. If he has plenty of ammunition, and a fast-firing weapon, O. K., take a few cracks at him like he was a duck. But remember that your landing field will be much larger than your duck pond, the range is likely to be greater, the initial height of the target above the ground greater, and the direction of travel unfamiliar. In general, I would say take one to one-and-a-half leads below the 'chutist if he is coming straight down, and compensate to the right or left for any drift due to wind.

But the best time to get him is as he makes contact with the ground. Even if he has a shooting iron, he must drop it momentarily to collapse his 'chute and get out of the harness. During that moment you can tag him dead to rights. He can't hit the ground and roll like an infiltrating doughboy, especially if the wind is tugging at his 'chute. Just lay on the spot where he is coming in and pour the lead into that area as fast as the old blunderbuss will shoot.

After he frees himself, if he's still kicking, he won't be able to put up any fight until he has reached cover. He may try to get there by one long sprint, or by running a bit and falling for a roll, or by crawling all the way, depending on the amount of fire he is receiving. In any case, the technique is the same—just keep putting well-aimed fire on him.

Incidentally, there seems to be a rather widespread impression that a guy can cause a parachutist considerable embarrassment by puncturing his parachute with a bullet, thus letting the air through and bringing him onto the ground with a big bang. That just ain't so. Every parachute has a hole at the very top which is 18 inches across to start with. I have jumped a 'chute with a panel as big as the top of your desk torn out of the skirt near the bottom. It makes no noticeable difference in the speed of descent. You could machine-gun a parachute all the way to the ground and it would do the jumper no harm, unless you happened to cut a lot of his suspension lines or unless you were using tracer ammunition and set the silk on fire. Even this is unlikely, Army tests have shown, for the silk in a parachute is not as tightly distended as that of a gas-filled balloon, and gives practically no stop-

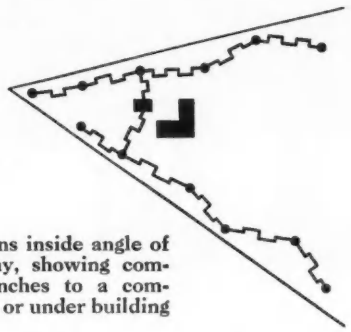


The X-shaped runway, with buildings outside, offers an entirely different problem. Flanks cannot be extended much beyond arrows A and B or men may fire against each other

shock to the projectile. Better forget that angle for now.

No, the best bet by far is to try to hit the jumper, and not his parachute. You'll want that intact, anyway, for a souvenir of the occasion.

One or two final suggestions, and I'm through. Among the various matters which should be worked out ahead of time is a division of the total area of the field, assigning



Detail of positions inside angle of V-shaped runway, showing communications trenches to a command post inside or under building

various sectors to individual defending riflemen or groups of them. In this way, it is assured that some fire at least will be placed on every part of the field, and there will be no mad scramble by everyone to knock off the first parachutist who lands, while the jumpers at the tail-end of the string are allowed to beat it into the woods where it would take a full-dress maneuver by a company of Infantry to rout a platoon of them out. Remember—if one man gets away, he may cut enough telephone lines in a few hours to cause a million dollars worth of delay and confusion.

Also, don't take your alerting system for granted. Pick an alert officer who is in a position to contact everybody smoothly and quickly, on a moment's notice. Note that the Regular Army often spends weeks in rehearsing a movement into a position less than a hundred yards away from the bivouac area. Each man prepares a list of things he will carry at night, and another list for daytime. He knows exactly what equipment is already in his position.

And even then, the plans which look most foolproof turn out to have tangles when the real action comes. Best idea is the acid test; have the alert officer sound the alarm unexpectedly and then take time by the watch to see how long it is before everybody has reached the field and gone into position. The best hour for this is just before daybreak, which is the likeliest time for the word to come in through the local branch of the air raid alarm system of an impending dawn attack.

Then you will catch everybody asleep, and you will be able to clock the longest time of the 24 hours in the day for them to get dressed, armed, and out to the scene with rifles loaded and nothing left except for the enemy to start something. Also, you will be able to detect and iron out in advance the little defects in your plan of assembling, assigning transportation and such, which simply don't show up until you go through a full-dress rehearsal. In the dark, too, things look different from daylight, as every duck hunter knows. You might have to settle an argument between two guys over the same foxhole, which wouldn't be appropriate in real action.

In this connection, all shooters should be cautioned to keep their weapons, shooting kits and everything else they plan to take along, including even the clothes they will wear, in a separate place—preferably a closet on the way to the front door. The town may be blacked out when things really get hot, remember.

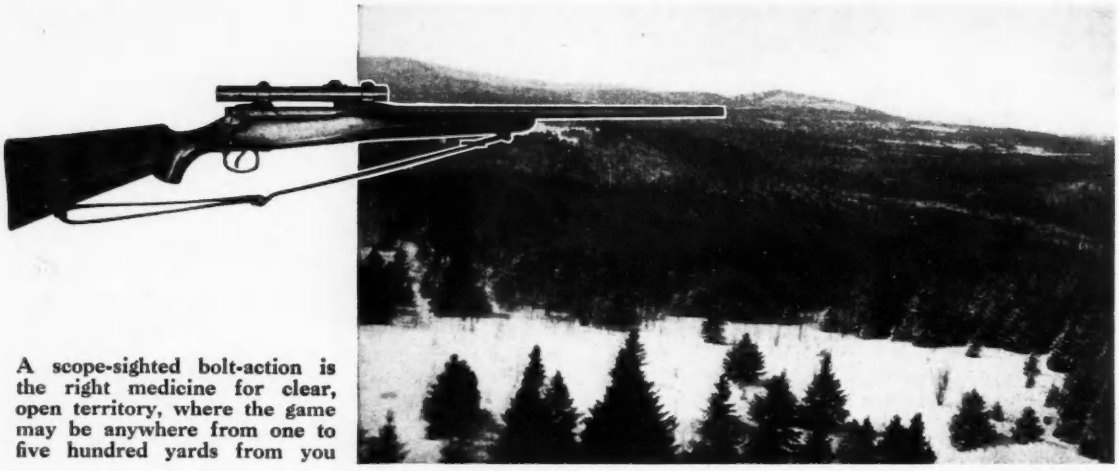
Sure, it's tough. But war is tough, no matter how you slice it. It outrages more than a fellow's repose. But we regulars go through a midnight alert on an average of twice a week, just for training, and to keep us from getting soft. Anyway, the kind of guys that make up the NRA, so far as I could tell in my time at Camp Perry, are just the sort who can take that kind of punishment and still deliver the goods.

INVENTORS WANTED!

IF ANY RIFLEMAN reader has an idea or an invention that may be of value in the fight to lick the Axis, Uncle Sam wants to hear about it! The Government is inviting anyone who thinks he has something of value to submit it to the National Inventors Council, Commerce Building, Washington, D. C., with the assurance that it will receive the consideration it merits and be handled confidentially. The Council acts as a clearing house for defense ideas and inventions, carefully considers all ideas, and passes along the more promising ones (with recommendations) to the arm of the service most likely to find them of value. In addition to ideas of direct interest to the Army and Navy, the NIC will consider aviation inventions if they have potential value.

Recompense is outside the sphere of the NIC and is taken care of by the department receiving the idea or invention. Legislation has established the legal basis (either purchase or licensing) for Government compensation for inventions, though certain rules must be observed.

So come on out of hiding with those ideas that have been simmering all these years. You may have something that will help us put the Ratzis and the Yaps in their places. And now's the time to tell Uncle Sam about it!



A scope-sighted bolt-action is the right medicine for clear, open territory, where the game may be anywhere from one to five hundred yards from you

Biological Survey

CHOOSING A BIG-BORE

ONLY A SMALL PERCENTAGE of the hunters entering the big game fields each fall stop to consider whether or not their rifle is the proper thing for the type of game they intend to hunt, and the right one for the conditions they will meet. I have seen about everything in the rifle line taken into the game fields; even the spectacle of novices attempting to kill elk with such inadequate cartridges as the .25-20 and .22 Hi-Power.

All too few hesitate long enough to consider the average range they are likely to encounter, and the importance this has on the type of rifle or cartridge they should use. Most of our big game hunters go out armed with a very low velocity big bore rifle, expecting it to perform over long ranges on such game as antelope and sheep, while as many others will go out after elk and bear or moose armed with the opposite extreme, a high velocity rifle with small light bullets, when their shooting will in all probability be in dense heavy timber at short range and on heavy game.

The range at which game must be taken, the kind and size of the animal, all have a very definite bearing on the proper tool for the purpose, and a little intelligent study will change many a hunting trip from failure to success. And that study and selection of the proper rifle and ammunition should be undertaken *before* and not after the hunt. Any man who considers himself a sportsman owes it to the game (if not to his own peace of mind) to use rifles and ammunition suitable for the game he expects to hunt.

Men who have had little experience afield after big game fail to realize the effect of velocity on bullet expansion and break-up as well as penetration. There is today no single bullet that is perfect for all conditions and all game. Anything approaching an all-around bullet in any caliber has to be a compromise and must sacrifice sectional density, weight and deep penetration to obtain very high velocity and very flat trajectory, or the other way around. We have today two schools among sportsmen, one group believing in very high velocity and blow-up of the bullet for all game, the other just as firmly believing in long heavy bullets of soft-nose type at moderate velocity for all hunting. So by the same token we have two main types of rifle and cartridge, as well as a great many different loads for each type. This makes the task of selecting a proper rifle and load all the more confusing. Over twenty years of hunting and guiding, and in being a spectator at the killing of a considerable number of American game animals, has convinced me that no one rifle and load will always produce the best results on all species of American game under all hunting conditions.

Let us consider each group separately. Then we can take up the best compromise loads for all game, for the chap who owns but one rifle and has no intention of buying another but must make that one rifle fill all his needs.

Take first the high velocity, long range rifle, best exemplified by such cartridges and rifles as the .300 Magnum, .280 Dubiel Magnum, .276 Dubiel Magnum, .285 O. K. H., .30-'06 in 150, 170 and 180-grain loads and the .270 Winchester with the 130-grain bullet.

These rifles and loads are at their best as long-range arms for hunting such game as sheep, goat, deer, antelope and coyotes, in country where shots at long range are the rule rather than the exception. All of this class develop 3000 foot-seconds or better at the muzzle, and kill such thin-shelled game very quickly when properly placed and within the limits of their range. When such game is shot at 200-yards or less with any of these loads, the bullets usually penetrate about half way through the

IS THERE a perfect big-game rifle? Here is what Elmer Keith has to say about an ever-recurring problem of the hunter

animals (sometimes completely through with the three Magnums), the bullets breaking up or disintegrating in the vitals of the animals, causing almost instant death. They simply blast the life out of game of this size.

For the .300 Magnum with 180-grain, the .285 O. K. H. 180-grain, the .280 Dubiel Magnum with 150 or 180-grain bullet and the .276 Dubiel Magnum with 160 or 170-grain bullets I would place the maximum range at which their bullets can be relied upon to expand properly as 550 yards. At such ranges the bullets will nearly always penetrate completely, due solely to loss in velocity and consequent loss of expansion and break-up. If the range be extended another 100 or 200 yards, they will nearly always punch small neat holes through the game, inflicting painful but not always fatal wounds, unless the vertebrae or brain is struck. The result at these ranges is apt to be the loss of a great deal of game.

With all other calibers in the high-velocity list I would place the effective range at not over 400 yards. Even at this range I have often had them fail to expand. A bullet that will open properly at 400 yards has to have a thin jacket at the point regardless of whether it has a cavity, a patent point or a plain soft nose. If this type of bullet will always reliably expand at such ranges, then it will usually blow to atoms at ranges under 200 yards, and will sometimes fail to penetrate to the vitals on rear-end or raking shots. The exceptions to this are again the Magnum loads, which have sectional density and weight enough to penetrate deeper. The great sectional density of the .276, .280 and .285 calibers, combined with their extreme high velocity with the 170 and 180-grain bullets also makes them retain their velocity much farther than loads with bullets shorter in proportion to the caliber.

The .300 Magnum with 180-grain load also falls into this class. Any of these (.276, .280, .285 or .300) are our finest rifles for shooting thin-skinned American big game at long range. It must be admitted that these loads are all meat destroyers when shots are not properly placed. Anyone using them should have a good hunting scope to enable him to properly place his bullets in the chest cavity of the animal.

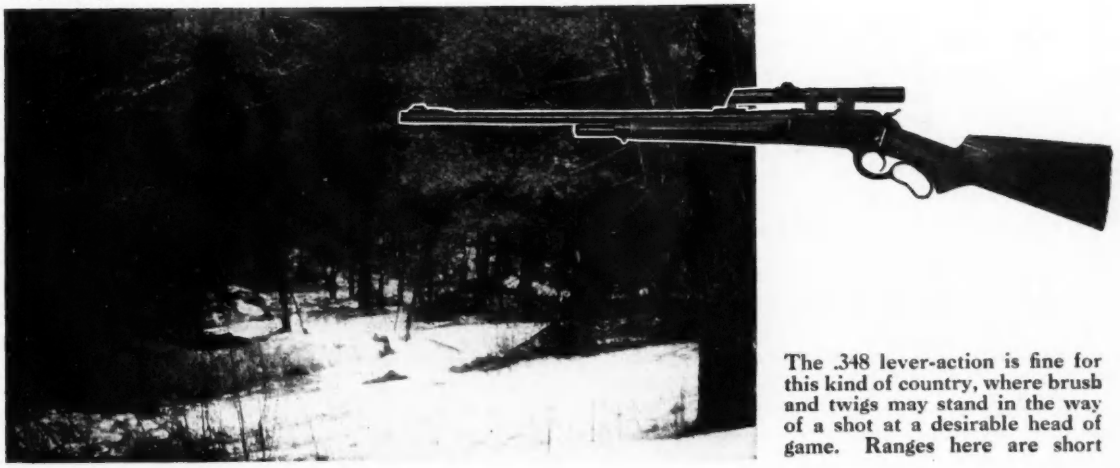
Now let us look at rifles and cartridges for our heavier game—elk, moose, grizzly and brown bear, even caribou —when encountered in timber. These animals have a great deal more vitality, and are heavy, with large heavy bones. Much of such hunting then means going into dense timber at all sorts of ranges, though the average will usually be under 300 yards. Such animals are too large to be blasted off their feet under most conditions. You may get a raking shot thru the heavy rump and hip bones, with the big heavy paunch forward of that to stop penetration. I have seen such game take a number of well-placed shots from the .30-'06 with 180-grain and similar rifles and then run off. Sometimes they were knocked down but got up; other times they simply stood and took it. And some got away.

Although it is true that an experienced hunter who is also a good rifleman can account for almost any game with even a comparatively light rifle, simply because he will fire only when he is certain of placing his shot, he is in the minority. The average hunter just cannot depend on doing it.

I have yet to see an American cartridge with soft-nose bullet or any other type of expanding bullet that would penetrate the heavy hip or rump bones of an elk and continue thru the big grass-and-water-filled paunch into the chest cavity at close range. I have tried about everything on them including the .400 Whelen with 350-grain W.T.&C. bullet, but they always stopped in the paunch on big elk. The one exception was not a modern rifle but an old Sharps Creedmoor with the .45-120-550-grain bullet, paper-patched, at less than 1500 feet per second. The more velocity any missile of the expanding type is given the sooner it will expand completely and then penetration will stop. For this reason, jackets are made thick and heavy for such bullets and the bullets themselves must be long and heavy and of good sectional density for best results.

For this class of game the .33 Winchester with 200-grain bullet, the .30-40-220, .30-'06-220 and 225 Peters and the .348 Winchester with 200 or 210-grain bullet are the smallest loads I would recommend. The .35 Remington with 200 or 210-grain bullet also falls into this class. For best results under all conditions the .35 W. C. F., .405 W. C. F., .35 Whelen, .350 G. & H. Magnum and the .375 H. & H. Magnum with bullets ranging in weight from 250 grains for the .35 W. C. F., 300 in the .405, 275 for both the .35 Whelen and .350 G. & H. and 300 grains in the .375 Magnum are the rifles and loads to choose for heavy North American game.

Biological Survey



The .348 lever-action is fine for this kind of country, where brush and twigs may stand in the way of a shot at a desirable head of game. Ranges here are short

The .348 Winchester Model 71, if used with a bullet of 250 grains at 2200 feet, would also fall into this class. Any of these rifles have the caliber, the bullet weight and sufficient velocity for the work in hand. They can be relied upon to give the same deep penetration with even expansion day in and day out, and this is vital for rear-end shots at heavy game. They may be considered unnecessarily powerful by many hunters, yet I have found them very reliable. They do not explode tissue as do the very high velocity small bore rifles, but expand evenly and penetrate, often completely thru an animal when struck broadside. They leave a good blood trail on both sides, which is essential to trailing in dense timber and undergrowth. The long heavy bullets will break big bones, no matter where struck, and though game will occasionally travel some distance, it will be easier to trail than if shot with a high velocity small caliber rifle that penetrates about half way and blows up. In such cases the entrance wound may close with fat, or from a change in position of the muscles, and leave no blood trail whatever. When this happens and the tracks are criss-crossed by other tracks, as often happens, the game is lost.

These long, heavy, large caliber bullets will nearly always penetrate brush and even small trees without deflecting or blowing up as so often happens when a high-velocity rifle is used in timber. While the old hunter will slip along and shoot such game with his smaller rifle only when he is absolutely certain of a vital hit, it is too much to expect of the average sportsman out from town on his first hunt. He is not going to miss a chance at a big head or a big bear because it is not turned right. Neither will he let it run away without at least getting in a shot or two if at all possible. He may be nervous and incapable of properly placing his shot even when the animal does stand right. If armed with a heavier rifle he will have a much better chance of securing his game with a minimum amount of suffering.

When it comes to selecting the most reliable type of rifle and cartridge for all American game, then I believe these same heavy-caliber rifles with long, heavy bullets at moderate velocity take the cake. On such light game as deer they will not kill as quickly as the high-velocity bullet. They usually penetrate completely thru the animal, except in the .405 Winchester, and the deer or similar game will jump and run. But if the bullet has been properly placed the game will not go far and will be dead when approached. On the other hand, I have many times had small-bore rifles fail to expand at all even at close range. Also bullets blew up too soon and did not penetrate sometimes. The game was lost even though the bullets were well placed. This has never happened for me with the heavier rifles when using long, soft-nose bullets, although such heavy rifles are not as good as the high-velocity type on game of the deer class when used with their heaviest projectiles.

We can, of course, work out a compromise loading for rifles of either class to give us an all-around weapon. The .30-'06 with 225-grain bullet is a very good example of the high velocity rifle loaded with a long bullet. Properly placed, it will do the work but it will not do it with rear-end shots on heavy game under all conditions. For the skilled rifleman, the above load and the .276, .280 Dubiel and .285 O. K. H. and 175 and 180-grain bullets and the .300 Magnum with 225-grain bullet will also give good results. Although they may fail to leave much of a blood trail in dense timber and may fail to penetrate deeply enough on raking shots, for long-range shooting in open country in the hands of skilled riflemen, who will hit the lung cavity or not shoot at all, any one of the five will kill heavy game.

The heavy rifles have loadings to make them long-range rifles and some can be given velocities suitable for thin-shelled game at long range. The most typical in this respect are the .35 Whelen, the .350 G. & H. and the .375 Magnum when used with bullets of 220-grains weight in the .35 calibers, at around 2800 feet per second and with the 235-grain in the .375 Magnum. These rifles and loads will handle any light game at long range, but they are not so ideally suited as are the modern high-velocity cartridges like the .276, .280 Dubiel and .300 H. & H. Magnum.

To sum up, we can arrive at some general conclusions: When choosing a rifle and load consider the game to be shot and, if possible, the average distance you must shoot. Remember that a velocity of 2000 to 2500 feet is ample for killing hits on our larger game up to at least 300 yards, and often to 400. Remember that long heavy bullets of fair caliber will penetrate well at such velocities, but if speeded up over this velocity, the jackets will have to be greatly strengthened or they will blow up on heavy game at close range with insufficient penetration as the result. On the other side of the fence, remember that the light, high-velocity bullet of good sectional density is the best bet for real long-range work on light game where the blow-up effect of such cartridges will bring quick death. The greater the range the greater will be the penetration from any expanding bullet, either large-bore or small-bore high velocity. Also the size and toughness of the animal has an equal bearing on bullet expansion. Where a light animal demands a thin easily-expanded jacket, the heavier game requires a heavy thick jacket that will not expand too readily, as penetration is needed on such game. Large bore rifles will kill fairly well at long range, even when the bullet does not expand properly, but the small bore is all thru whenever its expansion stops.

Bullet shape has much to do with the remaining velocity of any bullet out where the game is struck. A sharply-pointed, streamlined bullet will always hold velocity better than a short, blunt bullet. Take the 180-grain .280 Dubiel Magnum or the 180-grain boattail .30-'06 bullet —here is a long, slim, sharp-pointed bullet that maintains its velocity and energy over long ranges. Then look at the blunt 300-grain .405 Winchester bullet. Although an excellent close range and brush load it loses velocity much too fast, due to its short form. I have seen it penetrate through the shoulders of a bull elk at 200 yards and go on its way, due to loss in velocity, yet on three occasions it failed to penetrate broadside through mule deer bucks at 100 yards and under, due to the bullet expanding too much. These instances show something of what may be expected at various ranges.

While the novice may think it logical that the more velocity any cartridge has the more it will penetrate, he will in time find the exact opposite to be true. Energy tables on paper are also very misleading, and to my notion give relatively little information as to what any given load will do on game. Too many things enter into game killing to ever be accurately compared in cold figures.

The MENDOZA MACHINE GUN

By CAPTAIN MELVIN M. JOHNSON, JR.

ONE OF THE GREATEST handicaps to our "Good Neighbor" policy south of the border arises from our amazing ignorance of what goes on in our sister republics. With reference to Mexican small arms, most of us are less than dimly aware of what has been accomplished, though in the general field of arts and crafts, the inherent skill and native ingenuity of the Mexicans is amazing.

Our schools teach us little of our neighbor. Rarely do we learn Spanish. Students infrequently study the history of Mexico save in a most general way. Most of us accept Mexico and Mexicans as just another Spanish-speaking, La Cucaracha strumming, somewhat revolutionary nation, where Pancho Villa once rampaged on a fast horse, where they eat chili con carne, conduct cock-fights, and have open season on presidents.

It is proposed, therefore, to discuss chiefly Mexico's most outstanding recent arms development, the Mendoza Light Machine Gun, and to touch briefly on certain other developments in small arms in the land of *mañana*—indeed, the nation with a great tomorrow.

The Invention of Rafael Mendoza

In 1910 one General Mondragon of the Mexican army developed the world's first successful gas-operated semi-automatic rifle. Several hundred of these arms were made in Mexico and the weapon was actually used by German Jäger regiments in 1914. The Mondragon clip-loading system has certain resemblances to that of the Garand M-1 rifle, as do incidentally the histories of John Garand and Señor Mendoza.

About 1928 a machinist who had been working since 1922 in the national arsenal of Mexico was ordered to develop an improved machine gun. A native Mexican, son of Spanish-descended people, a day laborer paid at an amazingly low wage (so low in view of later events that he insisted that the actual amount be omitted herein) the then forty-year-old Rafael Mendoza truly represents the simplicity, the determination, the ingenuity and the real character of the common people in whose hands lies the future of Mexico.

Working with amazingly limited facilities, frequently handicapped by labor troubles in the arsenal, Mendoza fired his first model late in 1929. More models were built, trials were conducted in 1931, and the gun was adopted by Mexico in 1934. A later model was adopted in 1937, and a cavalry model has also been made.

In 1938 Mendoza left the arsenal to work in his own small but incredible factory where, with the aid of ancient machines, a small force of Mexican laborers and his own native genius, he turns out buttons and metal stampings, including an order for a substantial number of Mendoza magazines for the 1937 model gun.

The recent government order for these magazines came after he had developed a double-packed single line feed system for a 30-shot magazine. This contract to date (September 1941) represents his sole and only reward, except of course his previous laborer's pay. It is understood that the new government of Mexico is not unmindful of the service which Señor Mendoza rendered and in ultimately rewarding him will prove to the people of Mexico that a service rendered to the state is not to be forgotten or ignored.

Tall, pleasant-looking, quiet, unobtrusive, hard-working, middle-aged Rafael Mendoza meanwhile carries on minor production miracles in his little shop, where magazine spring wire is wound from a discarded automobile wheel, and crude but efficient gages are whittled from anything at hand. Mendoza's production rate, the excellence of his finished product, and the ingenuity of his production set-up would give many U. S. manufacturers an inferiority complex.

"Fusil Ametrellador Systema Mendoza"

The model 1937 Mendoza Light Machine Gun is an unusually simple weapon. Less publicized than the British Bren, the Lewis or the U. S. Browning Machine Rifle, the

Rafael Mendoza, genius of Mexico's arms plants, is all but unknown to Americans. Here is the story of his light machine gun, along with the other weapons of our neighbors "south of the border"

Mendoza is fully deserving of at least an equal status in the light machine gun hall of fame.

Chambered for the 7-mm. cartridge, using either the 175-grain round-nose or 139-grain pointed-nose bullet, the Mendoza is a gas-operated weapon of the bipod-mounted, magazine-fed light machine gun or heavy automatic rifle class, weighing about 18½ pounds. The 6-pound, air-cooled, instantly detachable barrel can actually be removed and replaced in six to seven seconds, an unusual feature in a gas-operated weapon of this type. The folding bipod weighs about one pound.

Cocked with the bolt open for automatic or semi-automatic fire, the single-column twenty or double-column thirty-shot vertical-feed magazines are inserted perpendicularly from the top of the receiver, to the right of the center of the line of sight. The heads of the cartridges are engaged by the right edge of the bolt face which passes past feed lips arranged on the lower left-side edge of the inverted magazine body.

The barrel is locked to the frame or receiver by two transverse lugs operated by a hinged lever, and engaging slots in the upper and lower edges of the rear section of the barrel. The gas port and housing are integral with the barrel just to the rear of the center, and the housing also engages the forward end of the frame which serves as the operating rod track.

The breech lock is of the thirty-degree turning-bolt type similar to the Lewis. There are three circumferential rows of longitudinally placed lugs, two on the bolt head, three in the center and three on the rear of the bolt body. These engage slots in the receiver, which is attached to the barrel as indicated above.

Actuated by the gas-impelled operating rod, the bolt is turned by a perpendicular camming arm which operates in two cam slots cut in the bolt body. Similar in principle to the Lewis, the Mendoza has the unique feature of a double or equalized cam bearing through one perpendicular cam lug which contacts two cam slots in the top and bottom of the bolt body. This equalization of the cam torque is an outstanding feature of the Mendoza.

Even more ingenious is the gas cylinder system. Usually the cylinder is stationary and the piston movable. In the Mendoza the gas tapped from the barrel runs through the center of a fixed plug resembling a piston. A hollow cylinder on the end of the operating rod closes over this plug as the action moves forward in firing. The gases force the separation of the plug and the tube. As the operating rod moves rearward slightly (less than two inches) the plug is left exposed.

The operating cam travels ¾-inch before unlocking takes place, thus allowing the pressure to drop. The double-ended striker, another unique feature, is retained in the bolt by the cam arm, and moves forward, closes, and strikes the primer through the action of the cam lug. If one striker point should break, the unit can be reversed and the other striker point used.

The cyclic rate of fire is adjusted by the gas-port regulator on the barrel, and varies from 380 to 515 shots per minute. Over 200 shots per minute have been fired in the Mendoza for several minutes. Firing at this rate the barrel is usually changed after 400 rounds. Using three barrels, 20,000-round tests have been successfully conducted.

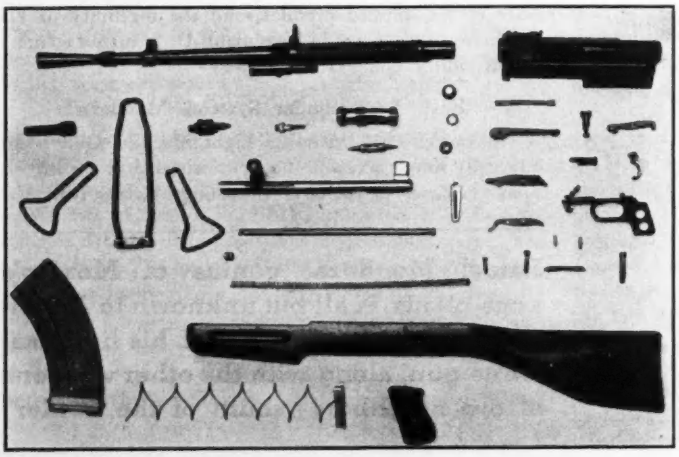
The Mendoza ejects to the left, using a conventional-type extractor and ejector. The latest sights are of the peep type. A folding butt plate is provided for use with the bipod.

Field stripping the barrel and bolt mechanism is unusually simple. The barrel is removed in four seconds with the gun cocked. The trigger is pulled and the bolt and rod assembly are expelled to the front by the force of the mainspring which is retained in the hollow operating rod and guided by an inner plunger shaft. The bolt is lifted from the cam lug, and the striker falls out of the bolt.

The change lever is set for safe in the rear position, semi-automatic in the vertical, and automatic in the forward position.

In addition to the bipod mount the Mexican army uses a Madsen-type tripod to a limited extent. Fired in tests from this tripod mount several years ago the Mendoza put 100 shots into a 50-inch square at 600 meters. Fired at 1,400 meters on a 3 by 3 meter target, 52 out of 100 hits were registered. Using the pointed bullet type 7-mm. ammunition, the Mendoza compares quite favorably with .30 M2 or M1906 calibered arms. The height of the trajectory is approximately the same and the accuracy, which in the 7-mm. needs no apologies, is very good.

The Mendoza is fired from the conventional auto-rifle or LMG positions. The Lewis-type pistol grip stock improves the operator's control. Equipped with flash-hider the Mendoza is 46 inches overall. Like most weapons of its class it is too heavy for easy handling unsupported. Accordingly, Señor Mendoza several years ago developed a folding all-purpose tripod mount weighing about 22 pounds. In brief, this mount consists of a triangular frame with one leg in front, two in the rear. The gun is placed in a longitudinal frame which reciprocates against two springs. Thus vibration and dispersion are minimized. The fore-end of the gun is locked in the front of the mount and the butt rests on a traverse-elevation block attached to a transverse bar. The gun can be locked and traversed by operating two levers.



These are all of the parts of the Mendoza machine gun, as they appear when field stripped. Disassembling is simple, and may be accomplished in a minimum of time

There are three ground positions and one aerial adjustment. Approximate heights of the gun on mount are:

Prone:	10 inches
Sitting } Kneeling }	24 inches
Standing	54 inches
Anti-aircraft:	72 inches

A long shaft located centrally in the frame includes the fore-end gun support. This can be pulled out and set up for the higher positions.

Señor Mendoza can adjust his mount with gun attached into the four positions and prepare to fire in the following time limits:

Change mount from prone to kneeling position	9 seconds
Kneeling to Standing	8 seconds
Kneeling to AA	15 seconds
AA to prone	11 seconds
Remove gun from mount for shoulder firing	4 seconds

Señor Mendoza some years ago developed a unique hand-operated weapon of the turning-bolt 7-mm. type. In brief the weapon resembles a Mauser carbine but there is no bolt handle. To load, the butt-stock is turned in the right hand 90° counter-clockwise. This unlocks the bolt which is attached integrally with the butt-stock. This unit is then pulled rearward, extracting and ejecting the cartridge. The butt is then shoved home and turned clockwise, loading and locking the next round from the conventional Mauser magazine.

By twisting the fore-stock one way and the butt the other very rapid fire can be obtained. The butt can be held on the shoulder while the fore-stock is turned clockwise, thrust forward and returned.

Other Developments

The standard Mexican army rifle and carbine is the 7-mm. Mauser model of 1936, made in the Mexican-rifle arsenal at Mexico City. Produced with some excellent pre-war German machinery, this Mauser needs no apologies. It is made with a turned-down bolt and closely resembles the latest German infantry model, having a 23-inch barrel instead of the earlier 30-inch type. This arm weighs about 8.8 pounds. The cleaning rod is retained in the forestock. The stock closely resembles the M1903 Springfield. The Mauser open-type sights are used.

Mexican officers are always armed—their Sam Brown belts are *not* ornamental. The chief side arms of the Mexican army and police forces are Colt .45 automatics and .38 heavy-type revolvers such as the Shooting Master. Their guns are carried fully loaded in ornate leather holsters, and extra clips are carried in leather pouches. Many of their automatics have very beautifully ornamented grips. Large square-post luminous sights seem favored. Even generals are thus armed—they get more attention in riots than their juniors! Wearing a uniform entails certain risks in Mexico, and officers *wear* uniforms, which, incidentally, are extremely well-made and neat.

Officers shoot a great deal at man-targets for practice. Recently a group of the highest-ranking officials in the army attended a demonstration at the Campo de Tiro in Mexico City. Before leaving an argument arose over the value of the automatic versus the revolver. The generals and colonels merely walked over to a row of silhouettes, pulled out their guns and fired several dozen rounds against a stop watch. It was noted that all of their weapons were in A-1 condition, spotlessly clean and expertly oiled. Mexican officers do not worry in the least about loaded guns—theirs are *never* unloaded.

In addition to the regular bipod mount, a Madsen-type mount is issued for use with the Mendoza machine gun

Changing mount from prone to this sitting or kneeling height takes only 9 seconds. Note squeezer trigger-bar

For use against aircraft, mount may be raised to maximum of 72 inches, can be changed over in 15 seconds

A favorite local rifle sport is to tie a turkey to a stake at 400 meters and shoot at it offhand with a 7-mm. or .30 caliber rifle. Mexicans are very fond of shooting and are by no means lacking in ability, especially on lifelike targets. Many officers had, till 1940, been sent abroad to Europe to study the weapons and methods of the German and other armies. Despite many handicaps Mexican manufacturing is not to be ignored. The manual dexterity and skill of the Mexican laborer is amazing.

Like all nations, Mexico has her weaknesses, her drawbacks and imperfections. But today Mexico is going ahead. A nation which can in the field of small arms alone design and produce Mendoza guns, Mauser rifles and ammunition can and will rise rapidly to a greater destiny—the destiny of All-America.

BREWING A POT of bullet metal isn't exactly a culinary art, but it's a mighty important subject for the handloader

HANDGUNS *and* COOKSTOVES

By R. C. Skaggs

Reaching the ultimate of accuracy with any combination of firearm and cartridge involves the thorough testing of every possible variation of that combination. The final result must take in every potential variable from the performance of the arm itself to all of the possible combinations of powder, bullets of various shapes and hardness, and not of least importance, the means of testing that accuracy. A good many years of experiment with the popular .38 Special cartridge have served, among other lessons, to bring home the importance of that matter of exploring every possibility for greater accuracy, no matter how slight in importance it may seem at the moment.

My first experiments with revolver bullets were made to discover the most accurate type and about three hundred pounds of bullet metal of uniform hardness was made up before the series of tests was started. My idea then was that the relative accuracy of bullets, when using a certain alloy, would be the relative accuracy with any other alloy. It never occurred to me at that time that the performance of a certain bullet might be improved by varying the content of the alloy. I fired and had fired for me in a machine rest thousands of shots with a .38 Special, using various bullets cast of the same alloy. During these first tests the gun was not removed from the machine rest, since we felt that a more accurate comparison between loads and bullets would be had by not disturbing the setup between tests.

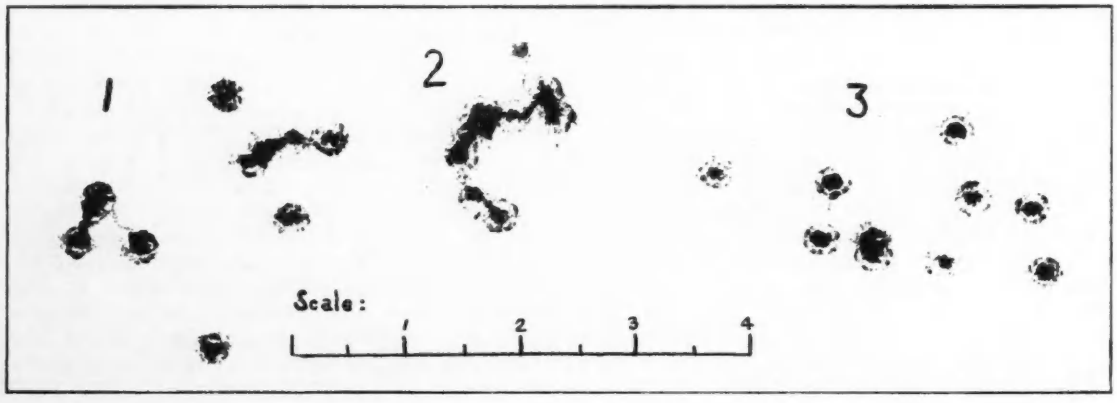
The first gun tried was a single-action Colt which gave us remarkable accuracy. It was in the rest for nearly three months without being removed. At the end of that time I felt that we had reached a point where the law of diminishing returns had begun to operate, so we removed it with the idea of checking results with some other guns. I had a Shooting Master in .38 Special caliber that I thought ought to do well, so we put it in the rest and tried out some loads that had proved to be very accurate in the single action. Contrary to our expectations, the Shooting Master did not perform as well as the single action. Some of the shooters who were helping me run the test wanted to blame it simply on the "fact" that the Shooting Master would not shoot as well as the single action and let it go at that. I didn't want to do this as I felt that by finding out what it took to improve the accuracy of ammunition for the Shooting Master we would find out something that might be of general applicability in any other revolver. Already we had tested over 30 different bullets for the .38 Special with various powder charges and the work of testing was really just getting started. It was then that the matter of bullet hardness occurred to us.

Books on reloading advise the use of alloys for revolver bullets ranging all the way from one part tin and ten of lead to one part tin and forty of lead. I had previously decided that either it didn't make much difference how hard a bullet was or the writers on loading didn't know how hard they should be, so determined to find out for myself. Cramer's number ten bullet, which is a round nose affair of standard weight, had proved to be a good bullet in previous tests. Since I had a five-cavity mould for it we cast up a number of these bullets of different alloys: 1 part tin to 10 of lead; 1 to 12; 1 to 14; 1 to 15; 1 to 16; 1 to 17; 1 to 18; 1 to 19; 1 to 20; 1 to 21; 1 to 22; 1 to 25; 1 to 30 and 1 to 40. Three 10-shot

Ten shots at 50-yards, Cramer number ten bullet cast 1 to 16, ahead of 5.5 grains of Unique

A group made with the same combination in the Colt Shooting Master, with a 1 to 17 mixture

Too little tin reacts as badly as too much. This group is with the same bullet, cast 1 to 18

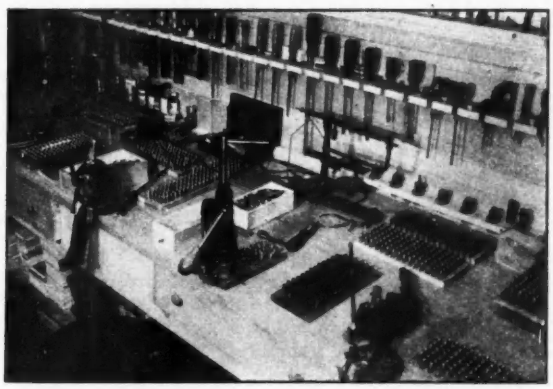


groups were fired with each of these groups of bullets. In the final analysis, we found the 1 to 17 was definitely the most accurate with our load of 3.5 grains of duPont No. 5. Next we tried various charges of No. 5, Bullseye, No. 80, No. 6, Unique, 2400 and 4759, with bullets of 1 to 16, 1 to 17 and 1 to 18 alloys. In every case except with 2400 the 1 to 17 hardness was most accurate with loads giving normal pressure. With the 2400 a fairly heavy load had to be used or the powder would not burn. In this case a bullet of 1 to 15 gave the best accuracy, though even that was not what one would call good, averaging about 2½ inches at fifty yards.

After this test of Cramer's bullet a number of other shapes were tried. In all of these trials, we never found a bullet that would shoot its best when cast softer than 1 part tin to 18 of lead. The only time a bullet this soft would do its best was when it was seated deep in the case ahead of a light powder charge and fired in a Colt revolver. This is an interesting matter. There should be some variation of bullet hardness in .38 caliber ammunition intended for Colt or Smith & Wesson revolvers. When using round nose bullets of design similar to Hensley's No. 39, Cramer's No. 10 and the Ideal 358311, or square nose bullets like Hensley's No. 9, Ideal No. 360344 in a Smith & Wesson they should be cast 1 part tin to 16 parts of lead. My favorite bullet for target shooting is Hensley's No. 50. This and Cramer's 16H, which is the same thing, should be cast 1 to 17 for use in the Smith & Wesson when loaded with 2½-grains of Bullseye or less. In my Colt revolvers of .38 caliber, all of which have a smaller groove diameter than any of my S. & W.'s, these bullets need to be cast 1 to 18 for the best results.

Many times I am asked which is the most accurate, a Colt or a Smith & Wesson revolver. My answer is that much more depends upon the ammunition than on the gun. So far I have never run across either a Colt or a Smith & Wesson that would not shoot well if it were used with the right kind of ammunition. Many shooters will pick out a target gun with great care and then proceed to use any old scrap metal they can melt to make bullets for it. I have known a lot of reloaders who were extremely careful in getting uniform powder charges and uniform crimp, but I have yet to find one who is equally careful to get uniform hardness in his bullets.

Many times a shooter will feel that he is in a slump or not up to par for some reason when the trouble is that his bullets are not of the right hardness. Not only will a group shot with bullets of the wrong hardness be larger, but the group will not have the same elevation. To prove this to my own satisfaction, I shot a number of groups with a standard round nose bullet cast 1 to 10 and an equal number with the same bullet cast 1 to 18.



A part of Skaggs' equipment for experimental work with handgun loads. Bullets are all .38's

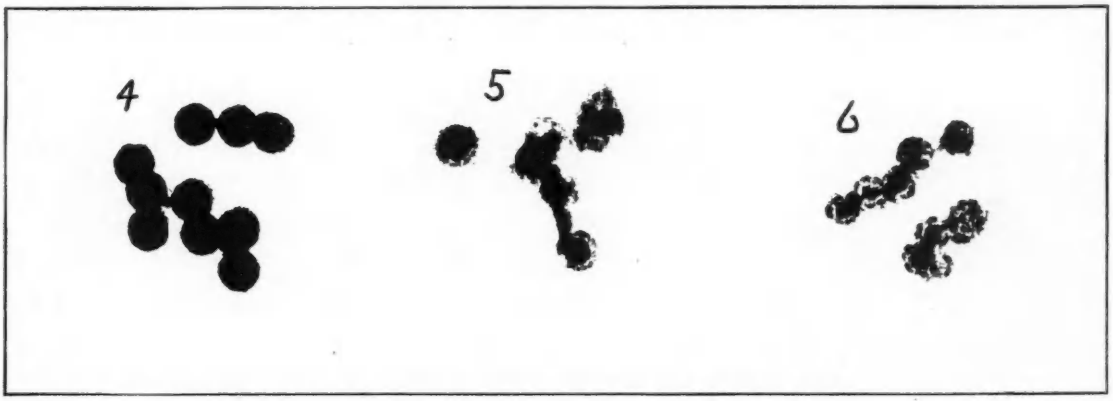
Groups made with the 1 to 18 bullets were an inch higher than those made with the 1 to 10 loads. There might be an even greater difference in offhand shooting than was shown in these machine rest tests.

There is even more to a proper bullet metal than simply the proper hardness. With a tin-and-lead alloy one certain hardness will be correct, but an alloy of tin, antimony and lead of the same hardness as the tin-and-lead alloy may not shoot the same. As an example, an alloy of 3 per cent antimony, 3 per cent tin and 94 per cent lead is exactly as hard as 1 part of tin and 17 parts lead, but the first will not shoot as accurately as the simple 1 to 17 mixture. I have never been able to get any combination of antimony, tin and lead to shoot as accurately as a tin-and-lead mixture. Perhaps the coefficient of friction has something to do with it, though it isn't often that I guess at why a thing is; I usually try to find out that it

The Hensley No. 50 in a 1 to 18 mixture gave this group, ahead of a 2.5-grain load of Bullseye

The same bullet, cast with a 1 to 17 mixture, and loaded with .2-grain less of powder charge

The Cramer No. 10, cast 1 to 16, with 2.5-grains of Bullseye. Gun was S&W Military & Police



is and let it go at that. It doesn't pay to guess at things in shooting. You either know or you don't, and if you don't, a miss is a miss, whether it's an inch or a mile. Another thing to cogitate on is why zinc bullets shoot as well as they do. They are harder than the hardest tin-and-lead mixture. They are much lighter, too. The most accurate factory load I ever tested was one loaded with a zinc bullet. It proved more accurate than the target ammunition loaded by the same company!

Reloaders sometimes ask if the bullet metal becomes softer as one nears the bottom of the melting pot. Many times I have saved a couple of bullets which were cast at the beginning of moulding and then save the last ones and compared them for hardness. When one consumes considerable time in the casting operation there is a noticeable difference in hardness between the first and the last bullets. If one starts out with a 1 to 17 mixture he may end up with a 1 to 18 if he is using a single cavity mould and running the metal at a fairly high temperature. This is one reason I like to use a multiple cavity mould. One should stir the bullet metal mixture before starting to cast just as a can of paint should be stirred before starting to use it. Otherwise the bullets will not be of a uniform hardness. Of course one can see when a pot of paint is well mixed but you cannot tell by looking at a pot of bullet metal whether it is well mixed or not; you just have to be sure to stir it enough. If one is gifted with stereopticon perception he will get a good mixture without much trouble; otherwise he'll have to stir it some more.

There seems to be little relation between leading and bullet hardness as long as a normal load of powder is used. With an overload of powder a bullet that is too hard (when hardened with tin alone) is more likely to lead than one that is a little too soft. The addition of antimony will reduce leading in some loads, not because it makes the bullet harder but because it raises its melting point. There are many causes of leading but bullet hardness is about the last thing to look for as a cause. If there were any connection between these two things, I believe I would have found it. After firing those many thousands of shots in testing revolver ammunition with bullets of varying degrees of hardness I'd say leading is most likely due to the kind of powder used, or to the charge of powder, barrel condition, bullet lubricant or bullet size. True, there are other things than these which may cause a gun to lead, but I would rather discuss them in connection with some other subject. Given a certain gun and a certain load there is but one proper bullet hardness and if the gun leads with that load it is because of some factor other than bullet hardness.

Naturally one may wonder which bullets I have found to be most accurate. I have tested 43 different bullets and feel that the relative merits of the various bullets with various powder charges in .38 Special caliber alone is too lengthy a subject to go into in this article. Briefly I would say that round nose bullets of standard weight have been most accurate, as for example Hensley's No. 39 and No. 28, Cramer's No. 10, Ideal 358311 and Bond No. B-358705 and 358742. Next in order of accuracy would be such wadcutters as Hensley's No. 9, Cramer's No. 20 and Hensley's No. 50.

As a group, I have not found sharp-shoulder bullets to be as good. Some of them will shoot well with certain charges of powder and will not stay in a three-foot circle at fifty yards with other ordinary charges of the same powder. I have moulds for two well-known sharp-shoulder bullets that will not shoot well, no matter how hard or how soft they are made or to what diameter they are sized, how seated or what kind of lubricant, kind of powder used or how much or how little of it, what kind of a gun they are shot in or anything else I can think of or anything I can get anyone else to think of for me. I value these two moulds, feeling that when I find out (if I ever do) how to make the darn things shoot well I will discover something that will be of general value in accuracy development.

DIRECTORS *(Continued from page 12)*

guilty of disorderly conduct; of disregarding every rule of pistol range safety; of action endangering the life of the pilot of the airplane toward which he fired, thereby bringing discredit on the good name of the National Rifle Association, the North End Rod and Gun Club and the whole sport of pistol target shooting; and that he was intoxicated.

Officer Corr was disqualified in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 7-17 and these charges are presented to the Executive Committee of the Association for hearing in accordance with provisions of paragraph 7-18 of the Association's Pistol Rules, 1941.

FRANK C. HOPPE,
NRA Official Referee.

After considerable discussion of these charges and of the supporting affidavits, the following motions were unanimously adopted:

"That Joseph Corr is found guilty on all charges and specifications preferred against him."

"Resolved, That Joseph Corr be, and he hereby is, expelled as a member of the National Rifle Association, and that he is forever disbarred from future competition in matches conducted or sponsored by this Association or any of its affiliated units; and furthermore, that it is the sense of the Committee that he be disbarred from future membership in the Association or any of its affiliated units."

Highlighting the annual Directors' Dinner Friday night at the Mayflower Hotel, General Reckord spoke on the subject "Civilian Defense and the Citizen Soldier". At the completion of a year of activity in the field, most of which was spent as Commanding General of the 29th Division, the General declared that what this country has spent in time and money in the training of civilians at the National Matches at Camp Perry "has been paid back many times this year". He added that "civilian rifle clubs are too great an asset to permit to go unused" and we must "bring into the picture everyone who knows how to handle a rifle as instructors of youngsters coming into the service and as members of our interior defense."

Another high spot for the 41 visiting Directors and for the guests of the Association, which included a large representation from official Washington, was the address of Brigadier General G. M. Barnes, Chief of Engineers, Ordnance Department, U. S. A., on "Designing for Defense".

THE CARTRIDGE . . .

Its History and Evolution

PART II

By CHARLES T. HAVEN

THE RIM-FIRE CARTRIDGE as we know it today was developed from the "bulleted-breech caps" shown by Flobert, the French gunmaker, at the great London Exhibition of 1851, and invented by him a year or two earlier. In their first form these cartridges were merely rimmed caps containing a small bullet and sufficient priming compound to give the bullet a range of fifty yards or so. The new feature was that they were fired by compressing the priming in the rim of the case between the striker and the breech of the gun, as all rim-fire ammunition has been fired ever since. They were soon enlarged to use larger bullets and to hold charges of powder of considerable weight. The principle objections to this type of cartridge, and the objections that have limited its modern use to small bore arms, were its tendency to miss fire owing to uneven distribution of the priming compound in the rim and the weakness at the rim of cases made by upsetting the heads so as to leave a hollow space all around the edge, both objections applying more to large size cartridges than small ones.

One of the earliest center-fire cartridges to give reasonable satisfaction was the invention of Charles Lancaster of England. The Lancaster cartridge consisted of a copper case with a thin head. A diaphragm of iron pierced with several holes and spread with priming compound was fitted inside the head. The cartridge was fired by a central-fire striker with a large nose, which compressed the priming compound between the thin copper and the iron disc. The flame passed through the holes in the disc to reach the powder charge.

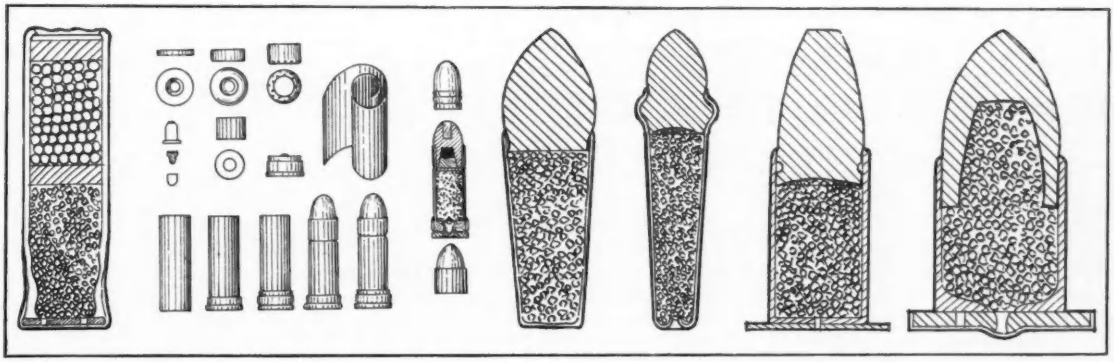
The great drawback to cartridge progress in England and Europe was the tendency to do things almost entirely by hand. Cases adapted to machine production could only be made slowly and imperfectly by hand and consequently could not be produced in quantity sufficient to supply any great demand. They were, therefore, impractical for general use, however logical in principle they might have been. All during the 1850's, when the several above mentioned types were in existence, the almost universal arm of the sportsman and soldier was the muzzle-loader. In the transition period during the 1860's when the breech-loader first began to come into its own, European and English cartridge cases were usually made up of several parts.

The first of the English military cartridge arms, the Snider conversion of the .577 caliber Enfield muzzle-loading musket, was originally used with the Schneider cartridge, which was introduced into England by Mr. G. H. Daw about 1861. It consisted of a metal head made up of several parts, fired by an outside center-fire primer, but using a case of cardboard. While this shell was reasonably satisfactory in shotguns, it did not work well with the service rifle, or in revolvers, in which it was also tried. Shortly before 1870 the cartridge for the Snider rifle was improved by the invention of Colonel Boxer of the English army, who invented a type of case since known as the "Boxer cartridge."

This cartridge was the standard of the English army for a number of years. It was used both in the original .577 caliber and also in a bottle-necked .450 size for the Martini Henry when that arm superseded the Snider. As can be seen from the illustration, the Boxer cartridge was composed of a considerable number of parts, and the cylindrical section was rolled from thin sheet brass, a method of construction that was not conducive to great uniformity or remarkable strength, but it could be made by hand.

Perhaps the commonest type of cartridge applied to the breech-loader in the United States during the 1850's was the simple case of combustible paper or linen, containing a powder charge and attached to the base of a conical bullet. This cartridge was used with many rifles, carbines and pistols including the Famous Sharps, patented in 1848, the Merrill, Gibbs, *(Continued on page 39)*

These early cartridges (left to right) are the Lancaster center-fire with pierced disc; .577 Boxer for Snider rifle; Combustible envelope for Colt percussion revolvers; Burnside and Maynard with pierced heads; Morse center-fire (a modification of the Lancaster)



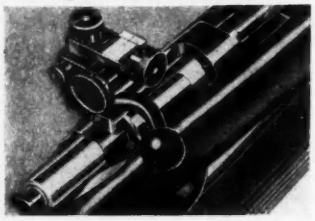
BRIDGEPORT, CONN., MAR. 1942

Rifle Remington

Shooting Instructors find Remington Rifles Answer Every Purpose...

Today, more than ever in the past, people are taking up rifle and pistol shooting. Adults who enjoy the target shooting sports are endeavoring to instruct other adults and boys and girls in the rudiments of rifle shooting. One of the first questions that comes up is "What kind of .22 rifle shall I use?"

If an instructor or shooter wants the very finest target rifle—the Remington Model 37 Rangemaster is made to order.



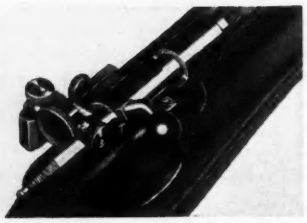
MODEL 37

More and more, top ranking shooters are turning to the Model 37 for wins in "hot" competition. Its special stock is "tailored" to shooters' needs. Its "miracle" trigger ends backlash, has a lightning-fast, crisp let-off. Look at its sturdy action of heat-treated steel,—it's as smooth as velvet! The Model 37 comes complete with sling, adjustable front swivel, and micrometer sights—all set to shoot for higher scores!

Suppose a team or group wants to buy dependable, sturdily-built medium-priced target rifles?

MODEL 513T

Here's the right gun—the Model 513T. The heavy match barrel is carefully bored for extreme accuracy. And now this rifle has a fine adjustable trigger. Superb balance, rugged construction for long life. Adjustable front sling swivel, for both short and long-armed shooters. Smooth, easy action. High-grade regulation sling. Target stock, micrometer sights, heat-treated non-slip butt plate—all at a moderate price.



If a group of boys and girls need dependable, beginners' rifles, suitable for target use, yet extremely low-priced, what Remington gun should be used?

MODEL 511P

This low-priced bolt-action box magazine repeater is of dependable accuracy, comes complete with adequate sights. Separate sear for smooth trigger let-off. Sturdy construction of working parts, and double extractors, separate ejector, double cams make for long life. The heat-treated double locking lugs insure correct head-spacing and accuracy. Self-cocking streamlined bolt. Also available as a single shot rifle, the Model 510.

TODAY THOUSANDS ARE LEARNING HOW TO SHOOT THE RIGHT WAY

Rifle shooting is a traditional American sport. Today, thanks to the efforts of The National Rifle Association and rifle shooters everywhere, more and more adults, boys and girls are learning the fundamentals of target shooting. They're being taught by instructors who, for the most part, got their training at Camp Perry or Camp Ritchie. Fitting emphasis is being placed on proper holding, sighting, trigger squeeze, and the safe handling of guns. This interest on the part of so many new shooters will make target shooting competition much more popular—and "hotter"—in coming years. It shows how the thorough work done by rifle shooters in the past is bearing fruit today.

Possibles and Impossibles

by **FRANK J. KAHRS**

Think back twenty-two years . . . The "Roaring 20's" were just beginning. A lot of today's top-flight shooters were negotiating pop-guns and toy pistols, if they could do that. Yours truly was on the same job as today; i.e., trying to convince our friends and potential customers that Remington products were the best in the world. At that time, "Palma" Lesmok cartridges were making a great name for themselves, against pretty stiff competition . . . But why go back that far? We believe this quotation from a letter we received is self-explanatory:

"Twenty-two years ago I purchased a Remington Model 12, .22 cal[ibre] octagon barrel rifle and 500 PALMA Lesmok cartridges at a local sport[ing] goods store. I wanted them for hunting squirrels and was too 'gree[n]' that time to know that 'PALMAS' were very accurate target cartri[dges]. I used all but 3 boxes and put them away and forgot about t[hem]. While going thru an old trunk the other day I came across the forg[otten] cartridges. They were all badly corroded, but I cleaned them thor[oughly] and gave them a tryout. I was none too confident as to how these [old] shells would perform. To my surprise they shot with excellent uniform[ity] and accuracy. The old Model 12 is just a plinking rifle, but the end[ing] improvised target speaks for itself. If I had a Model 37 and was allo[wed] prone, the results would have been near perfect. All eight shots were [fired] from the standing position only. There was not one misfire. Enc[losed] herewith is the 22 year old box. Range 50 feet."

Remember, these eight shots were fired at 50 feet and the bull's-eye [measures] 1¼" in diameter. We placed a quarter over the group and all [but] 1½ shots were completely covered. The group measured .75". A qu[arter] measures 15/16".

* * *

The Wisconsin Rifle Association "Citizens Rifle Instruction Cours[e]" the latest addition to the ranks of rifle shooting schools. There is no[thing] new in the idea, of course, but when a great daily paper gets behind [the] project, enrolls all of the sporting goods and sports shops in the [city] and many rifle clubs in the state, then it all adds up to something [worth] passing along to everybody interested in shooting. Specifically the "[Mil]waukee Sentinel" of Milwaukee, Wisconsin is behind this movement. The newspaper is taking part in conjunction with the William Randolph Hea[rst] Citizens' Marksmanship Competition, which has been going on for [years]. All of the activity is sponsored by the Wisconsin Rifle Association. This information is given in case anyone is sufficiently interested to ob[tain] further details from the newspaper in question. There is an official ent[ry] ment card to be filled out by those desiring to enroll. On the back [of] the card the coach or teacher marks as follows: X for FAIR; XX [for] GOOD; XXX for EXCELLENT, and any student who gets XXXX is [re]garded as extra special material with instructional ability. The course [is] practically the same as the school at Camp Perry last year.

All in all it is an excellent idea and if every rifle club, sporting goods [store] and newspaper in each city would organize along the same lines, it [would] be the finest thing that ever happened to rifle shooting in this country.

* * *

We have a request from a reader of the column to suggest a good rifle [club] program to follow on regular weekly meeting nights. Our correspon[dent] states that they are using the "Kitchen Handicap" quite successfully [in] giving "KLEANBORE" as prizes. They plan to spend one night a [week] shooting N. R. A. Qualification. As he states now, they are all set [for] first Monday of the month with an N. R. A. Qualification, the second [Mon]day is a match with a near-by club, the third Monday is the "Kit[chen] Handicap" and we suggest for the fourth Monday a Club Spoon Shoot [in] three classes, A, B, and C. A spoon to the winner in each class, keep them there until they demonstrate that they don't belong there. Ha[ving] been a club secretary and having run shoots of this kind, we know [from] actual experience that it is not a difficult matter for a secretary of a [club] or the executive officer for that matter, to segregate the shooters [into] groups that will give good competition and prevent anyone from run[ning] away with the spoons.

For instance, if the "C" class spoon is won more than once by the [same] man, move him up into "B" and the same with the "B" man. Select [a] well-known pattern of spoon, and if you can afford it, settle on ster[ling] silver. It will cost the club practically nothing, and keep the [interest] shooting;—after all, that is the general idea. You can even have [extra] entry matches along the same lines and charge ten cents for entry. [You] will be surprised how much money will be in the pot to buy more spo[ons] and you can eventually put up more spoons as the fund for purchas[ing] them becomes larger. We submit this for any club that wants to get [new] members out for the weekly shoots and provide some good, interes[ting] competition.

Already we note many dates for rifle shoots in different sections of [the] country. In some cases these dates are accompanied with the state[ment] that they are more or less contingent upon developments in the future, [per]haps scarcity of gasoline, or shortage of rubber. It is our own [personal] opinion that none of these things will interfere with the successful run[ning] of matches this year at least. All of the tires now on the road are [not] going to wear out at once. The rifle shooter is a resourceful individ[ual] and he will get there somehow. The boys will double up, and where [one] fellow formerly travelled alone to a shoot he will now take three or [four] of the boys along. That has been the custom generally so far as we [have] been able to observe. We think it will keep on being the case.

"PALMA", "LESMOK", "KLEANBORE", "TARGETMASTER"

Remington News

A PAPER FOR PEOPLE WHO SHOOT

SMALL BORE AND PISTOL SHOOTERS JOIN "SUNSHINE TREK" TO FLORIDA'S WINTER EVENTS

NATIONAL MID-WINTER RIFLE SHOOT at St. Petersburg will bring together the usual top flight competition that makes these matches so outstanding. Added attractions—balmy Florida weather, a congenial crowd, a bright sun, and real Southern hospitality . . . Then to Tampa and Miami for the pistol tournaments—why not arrange to go this year?

The shooting fraternity is gathering in the South for some of the shoots of the Winter season—the National Mid-Winter Rifle Tournament at St. Petersburg, Florida, held March 11-15; and the National Mid-Winter Pistol Tournament gets under way at Tampa, March 19-22. Then down to the Palmetto Range at Miami for the Miami International Open Pistol Tournament held March 24-27.

As indicated in earlier shoots, at Charlotte and Gainesville, there will be more 37's on the firing line at St. Pete, while it is almost traditional that match after match will be won with Palma Kleanbore and Targetmaster ammunition.

"WONDER WHY" BILL ASKS—

"I'm just an ordinary shooter. I like to get out on the range, and sometimes get some pretty hot scores. Sometimes they're not so hot. I'm not exactly a "gunnut", and don't know all the answers. Frinstance—

I've heard it said the old-timers wetted the tips of their bullets with their tongues before they shot them. Do you think this helped, or was it just superstitution?"

ANSWER: It may have helped, but the advantage was principally psychological.

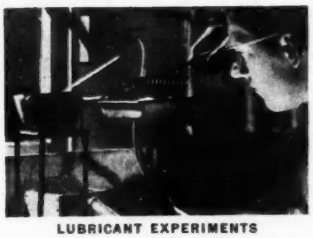
"All right. Now another thing—I hear an awful lot of talk about the crimp of a bullet. Is it really so all-fired important?"

ANSWER: Yes, it is. The crimp holds the bullet in the case. It must be uniform to help provide an even pressure build-up behind each bullet. Here's a Remington ballistics expert examining crimped cartridges under a microscope. They're also subjected to a "pull test" to make sure that the force needed to pull a case and a bullet apart remains constant. Uniform crimping is vitally important to accuracy.

"I'll string along on that. But how about bullets? Some real 'bugs' I know use special ones, and talk about 'density', 'correct length', and 'right diameter'. Is that mularky?"

ANSWER: No, it isn't. At Remington we've spent years constantly improving bullet design, length and diameter. And we're very careful to maintain uniform bullet density. In flight, a bullet revolves on its own axis. Density controls its balance at high speeds.

TESTING CRIMP



LUBRICANT EXPERIMENTS

"Now tell me. What's all this about lubricants?"

ANSWER: They are important, too. The old-timers used tallow, but today's lubricants are greatly superior. The Remington lubricant is made by an exclusive formula to give maximum performance. Above (left) is a Remington ballistics engineer experimenting with various types of bullet lubricants.

"What's the real dope on Kleanbore priming?"

DROP TEST

ANSWER: It's a special Remington development that protects the inside of gun barrels against rust and corrosion, and insures fast, uniform ignition. The above drop test is made on primed cases at frequent intervals—the light blow of a 2-ounce weight must fire the primer.

DID YOU EVER KNOW IT TO FAIL? by KELLY

EP! THAT'S JOE AND HIS BRIDE - NEVER AW SUCH A DEVOTED COUPLE - SAYS HE'S OING TO TEACH HER HOW TO SHOOT.
NO-NO-NO-!!!! KEEP AT LEAST ONE EYE OPEN AND DON'T HOLD SO TIGHT - RELAX! ETC-ETC-ETC

T. M. Reg. U. S. Pat. Off. by Remington Arms Co., Inc., Bridgeport, Conn.

"SHOOTING *across the* BOARD"

CONCLUSION—THE STANDING POSITION

By FRANK PARSONS, JR.

"WELL, LET'S GO OUT and separate the men from the boys." To an experienced shot this has been for years the signal to go out and shoot standing. To the inexperienced it is probably a comical remark but if we stop and think about the thought behind its origin, it means simply that the difference between a good man and a poor or fair one shooting standing is sufficiently greater than in other positions to justify the comment. For example, a good man may top a fair one prone by one or two points and kneeling by three or four points but standing the good man may end up five to ten points better than the fair one. It surely follows that the standing position is the one which can show the greatest improvement with intelligent practice.

There is no doubt that most three position matches are won or lost in the standing position. An outstanding example of this which occurred in an intercollegiate match was the one in which one man fired a score of 100 prone, 100 kneeling and 82 standing for a total of 282. His score was badly beaten by the man who shot 99 prone, 97 kneeling and 89 standing for a 285 total. Note that the man who fired the 285 did not shoot an outstanding score in any position but his total won the match. I also know that he spent his practice time balancing his scores or, in other words, strengthening his weakest position.

I believe that the average shooter should out of ten practice scores shoot one string prone, three strings kneeling and six strings standing. This is based on the assumption that the shooter thoroughly understands the basic principle of each position. In other words, he has them in a groove so that he can return to the same exact position at any time. This ratio of strings to be fired in the different positions should be altered back and forth until all three positions are in balance.

It is, of course, the coach's job to see that you understand these basic principles of each position, most particularly so that when some difficulty does arise you will be able to recognize it and know what should be done to correct the trouble. Many times in the prone and kneeling position a lack of stability can be corrected solely by the sling, which is seldom used in the standing position and will be discussed later. Therefore, with fewer mechanical factors to depend upon, the coach must make doubly sure that you understand these basic principles and the reasons for them.

You have already noticed from the photograph that we are dealing principally with the off-arm or military position which is in more general use in this country. We shall also try to point out the principal points in the hip-rest position.

I have no quarrel with those who believe in the use of a sling of any type in the standing position. I have seen a number of men shoot beautiful scores using the sling. Frankly, I have always believed that they could do just as well or better without it. Occasionally, we have men report for practice at George Washington University who state that they have had considerable experience in shooting and have used the sling in the standing position. Our stock answer is "Show us." If the man in question can shoot scores necessary to place him on the team, we let him alone and if he cannot, we ask him to try our way of doing it. Briefly stated, the basic factor of off-arm shooting is the elimination of every unnecessary expenditure of energy and we believe that this conflicts with the use of the sling.

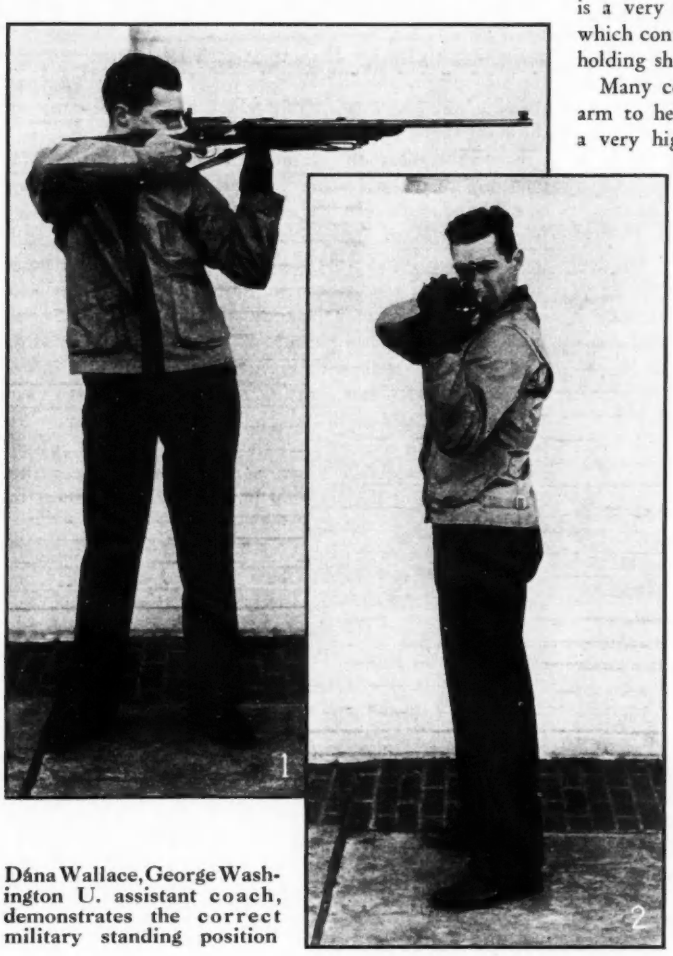
In assuming the standing position, please note that every instructive point is directed toward a natural easy stance. After stepping up to the firing line, place your feet a comfortable distance apart. I would interpret this to mean around ten to a maximum of fifteen inches for a very tall man. Remember it is just as bad to have the feet spread too far apart and create a strain as it is to have them not far enough apart and lack stability. Remember that you are actually standing on a platform which in size is as wide as the distance from your toe to your heel and as long as the distance from your left foot to your right foot. After getting your feet comfortably placed, put the rifle up in aiming position and see where it points naturally. If the sights are not properly aligned on the target, move the feet until you are naturally aiming at the target. Be sure to remember that you will get the best results if, from that time until your score is completed, you do not move your feet. The exact placing of the two feet will vary slightly from one shooter to the next. The average position will have the right foot advanced up to about one inch over the left foot in relation to the line of fire.

In holding the rifle with the left hand (again assuming a right-handed shooter) remember that the fingers of the left hand might as well not be there for all the useful purpose they serve. Those who press on the barrel or stock with the fingers of the left hand are actually harming their shooting, since it means just one more tension in the body. It might be well to mention in passing that you should be careful not to use too heavy a rifle unless you are exceptionally strong. We use several makes and types of rifles at George Washington but since Wallace shoots a standard weight model 52, the illustration gives an excellent opportunity to discuss the proper place for the hands to be. We have found it best to hold the rifle very slightly to the rear of the exact point of balance, thereby making the rifle slightly muzzle-heavy. As you will see in the illustration, this permits a forearm which is almost exactly perpendicular and which is ideal.

You will note from the illustration that Wallace is cradling the rifle in the crotch between the thumb and forefinger of the left hand. Almost without exception we have found this to be superior to resting the stock in the palm of the left hand, since there is then no tension on the ligaments in the left wrist. Both photographs demonstrate the proper position for the left elbow just as in the prone and kneeling positions. The elbow

should be as nearly as possible under the barrel of the rifle and certainly should not be allowed to creep out to the left. Using this position the left shoulder will do 90% of the work, relieving both the elbow and the wrist of practically all strain.

In placing the butt of the stock to the shoulder the same point which was mentioned in connection with the kneeling position applies to an even greater degree. That is the necessity of carrying the butt plate of the rifle considerably higher in the right shoulder in order to make it unnecessary to strain the neck forward and down to be able to look through the sights. In placing the butt of the stock into the shoulder, carry the rifle to an angle of about 45 degrees between vertical and horizontal, then allow the rifle to sink down until it has come to sighting position. This will overcome the trouble known as body sink and if properly done will eliminate the feeling that the barrel of the rifle must be pushed up an inch or two in order to remain on the sighting target.



Dána Wallace, George Washington U. assistant coach, demonstrates the correct military standing position

Note from Figure 1 that Wallace's shoulders appear to be thrown backwards a matter of about six inches from directly over his hips. This is a very simple and yet very important item. First, be sure to stand with the weight evenly distributed on the two feet. Then, as the rifle barrel comes down into sighting position, allow the hips to sink forward slightly. This will automatically cause the shoulders to move backward and with it the rifle and the center of weight will move backward toward the center of the body, which makes much easier the job of holding up the rifle. So many men put up a rifle as though they were out in the woods taking a pot shot at a running rabbit. This standing shooting is a very careful deliberate game and every small item which contributes toward lengthening the period of steady holding should be observed.

Many coaches advocate the use of the right hand and arm to help hold up the rifle by carrying the elbow at a very high angle. I do not subscribe to this theory, believing as I do that the left arm properly trained and used as shown is capable of holding up the rifle and that the right hand (other than the use of the trigger finger) should serve the sole function of exerting a slight pull back into the shoulder.

You will note in Figure 2 that Wallace comes very close to shooting over his left shoulder. This means that the rifle must be carried across the chest as close as it can be without actually touching it and, therefore, having the vibration from the heart beat imparted to the rifle. In resting the cheek against the stock find the comfortable place for it and then memorize it so that each time you shoot the face will be placed in the same exact position. As you look through the rear sight be sure that you are looking through the exact center of it each time until it becomes entirely automatic.

By carefully following these instructions, I believe that any normal person can assume a highly satisfactory standing position and now I am going to discuss a number of points, some physical and some psychological, which I believe will help in making you a better standing shot.

The exercises which we discussed in the first article of this series are more beneficial to good shooting in the standing position than either prone or kneeling. The matter of breathing is important. After taking one or two reasonably deep breaths, inhale a normal breath as the rifle is put up in the air and then start to exhale slowly as the rifle barrel is brought down to position. Never attempt to hold the rifle in aiming position when it becomes necessary to take another breath. This being the case, the man in very good condition can hold the rifle for not over thirty to forty seconds and, therefore, every possible second of it should be utilized. Take only about two seconds to bring the rifle barrel down with an even motion and *immediately* be ready to start sighting. Remember that the man has not yet come along who can hold the rifle barrel absolutely still in this position or long enough to get off a deliberate squeeze. Therefore, the proper method is to control the movement of the barrel in the proper way. Permit the rifle to move from side to side slowly but spend all possible effort and training toward eliminating the vertical movement of the barrel. Proper conditioning and proper practice make it

possible to reduce the vertical movement of the barrel to the point where the widest shot will certainly not go out of the nine ring and remember, I mean only vertically. Then with the rifle barrel moving slowly from side to side, it is possible to squeeze off the shots as the sights move into the ten ring of the target. We have, I believe, an interesting way of handling this at George Washington University. Each man carries a mental picture of the rectangle which he believes he can hit. For example, if a man believes that he can or should put every shot within the eight ring vertically then his horizontal lines of the rectangle are the eight ring at 12 o'clock and the eight ring at 6 o'clock. Then if he permits his rifle barrel to swing from seven ring to seven ring, the vertical lines of the triangle are automatically the seven ring at 3 o'clock and the seven ring at 9 o'clock. This becomes simply a little mental picture which reminds him that he is not shooting at the ten ring every time but attempting to put every shot in the rectangle which he has mentally drawn for himself. We all know that no one can hit the ten ring every time shooting in this position. Therefore, why complicate the task by attempting to do so? A man whose mental rectangle is the nine ring for vertical dispersion and the eight ring for horizontal dispersion and then can make good on this rectangle such as Wallace does, for example, can consistently shoot around the 90 mark and occasionally much better, simply based on the law of averages. It makes no difference what size or shape rectangle you draw so long as you attempt to stay within it and then reduce the size of it with particular emphasis on vertical dispersion as you show improvement. When sighting, the horizontal movement of the gun barrel should and can be very slow so that the trigger let-off can be definitely in the form of a somewhat fast squeeze as the sights move into the center of the target. Years ago, I developed the invariable habit of letting off the trigger as the gun moved in from the left-hand side of the target. This is not at all to be confused with a snap-shooter. Once in a blue moon a man comes along who can snap-shoot and do a good job of it. We average mortals, however, find that when we try snap-shooting we are almost certain to let at least one or two wide ones go out of every string of ten shots. Remember that it is these wide ones which wreck the score even though the rest of the shots are very good. I would much rather see a man shoot an 85 standing with five 9's and five 8's than I would to shoot the same score with five 10's and five 7's.

Don't feel that you must shoot every time you put the gun up. It is much better to take the gun down and rest for five seconds and put it up and go to work again sighting rather than to stretch the period of time you can properly hold the steady position simply to get the shot off. It is this habit which has caused many of the wide shots.

Remember that the thinner the shoulder pad on the shooting coat the farther into the body the rifle may be held and, therefore, the easier the job of holding it up. If possible, do all your shooting in a pair of fairly stiff shoes. When resting between shots in the standing position, rest with your elbow on your hip and the gun held in the left hand across the body with the right hand free. It requires many less pounds of kinetic energy than to hold on to the rifle with both hands and drop it down at arm's length. For sighting equipment, I believe that an extension rear sight which brings the rear aperture back almost to the eye and, therefore, eliminates outside light and an aperture front sight which permits a rim of white around the sighting bull of about one-third to one-half of its diameter is the best combination.

The hip-rest or N. R. A. position differs almost solely in the fact that the left elbow is rested on the left hip and then the rifle is supported by the thumb under the trigger guard and the fingers straight out and under the forearm of the stock. Practically every other point mentioned in this article applies almost equally to the two positions. I do not mean that one can practice the military position consistently and then expect to change right over and shoot scores of which one would be ultimately capable. Each requires its own type of practice.

Remember the mark of the smart person is the refusal to make the same mistake twice and remember that intelligent practice is learning the proper routine for rules which soon become automatic.

THE RIFLE IN WAR: "In recent years the rifle as a war weapon has been overshadowed in some of our minds by the great amount of publicity given to airplanes, machine-guns, tanks, bombs, and all the clattering panoply of modern mechanized armies. We have even been told since 1918 that 'future wars will be won in the air.' But, as one blunt commentator puts it, 'Hitler wants the earth; and he'll jolly well have to come down to the earth to get it.' That is the truth. All these other things are preparation. The infantry are the backbone of any army, and they have the final word.

"Nowadays we have all of the machine guns we need; but every infantry soldier cannot carry a machine gun, nor could he carry ammunition to use it more than a few minutes; nor even if that were possible could any country supply the colossal quantities of ammunition that would be necessary. The only known weapon suitable for the individual soldier is the plain magazine rifle, and he can carry so comparatively little ammunition with him—for it is heavy stuff—that his job should be to make every bullet hit something worthwhile.

"As for the result—well, never mind. We won the last war. We always do. We shall again. But how much easier it *could* be. Nobody knows what a whole army of really expert shots could do in the field. There never has been such a thing!" A. G. Banks, *The Rifleman,* London, March 1940.

Any Alibis?

Thrashing Out the Woes of the Handgunner . . .
This Month Our Champion Discusses—

LONG VS. SHORT BARRELS

"WHY IN HECK DO YOU use that 7½-inch barrel on your O.M.?" That is a question I believe I must have answered at least five hundred or more times since I started going to tournaments. My only answer is that such a gun suits me and gives higher scores than any other length of barrel I have ever used. If that were not the case I would have discarded it long ago.

First of all let me say that I have no fault to find with anyone who doesn't agree with me. Ye Editor didn't say that I had to convince all pistol shooters that they were wrong. He only said that he wanted to know why I liked the longer barrels. Here's the story:

Some charts were published two or three years ago which, according to the author of the accompanying article, definitely proved that the long sight-radius of 7½-inches or even 10-inches didn't help the shooter to make small groups. That may be, but I can't agree. I notice that most .22 Woodsman shooters use the long-barrel model and not the shorter one. Why? Partly at least because the long barrel (consequently the long sight-radius) enables them to make small groups, especially at 50 yards. The same thing holds good for me with my 7½-inch barrel revolver as compared with the 6-inch barrel I have used and given up.

Many shooters have asked to try my 7½" barrel O.M. and almost without exception their comment has indicated the gun was difficult to shoot. The extra sight radius does make the sight "wobble" more apparent. This same "wobble" is the reason many persons have never liked the 10" pistols. However, I cannot agree that this so-called "fault" is a fault of the gun at all. It is a lack of training on the shooter's part. The sights on any gun —2" or 10" barrel—move around to a degree comparable with our condition and our training. The psychological effect this sight wobble has on the majority of shooters is to make them hold too long. Finally, when their arm is almost tired out the trigger is "squeezed" (?), the hit is not good and the longer barreled one is condemned at once. Unless accustomed to handguns with a long sight radius don't judge such an arm on the basis of only a few shots. Give it a long trial.

Some of the brethren have been outspoken in condemning the long-barrel revolvers because they "were so hard to use in timed- and rapid-fire." That may have been the case years ago when almost all shooters cocked the revolver by rolling it well over to one side of the hand. It is not nearly so true today when most of us cock the revolver by pulling the hammer straight to the rear without any rolling motion. Without the side motion induced by the old-fashioned "roll," the front sight doesn't do any more swaying around when attached to 7½-inches of barrel than it does if hung onto 6-inches.

Just to prove (?) that last point, hark ye back to the Savannah matches in 1938 and remember the not-too-overgrown Captain Charles Densford (now Lt. Colonel) who set a new Rapid-Fire Revolver Record of 196 x 200. He used a 7½-inch barrel, as he has for all his center-fire shooting for years. Charley is husky but his hand isn't overly large, so if anyone should have trouble getting the sights of a long-barreled gun back in alignment he should be one of them.

The next time you are on the range where a long-barreled revolver is being fired alongside one of the more conventional six-inchers, take up a post of observation directly to the rear of the long-barrel owner and notice the gun in recoil. My impression has always been that there was less twisting and side motion as the gun recoiled. I believe that my longer-barreled revolver recoils in a more nearly straight line than does the usual 6-incher. Consequently my sights seem to be less disturbed and to come back on the aiming point with less hand and wrist movement. As I told you before, maybe this is just my imagination—far be it from me to even try to influence you.

Perhaps the factories load with a better burning powder than we handloaders are able to get and so the 6-inch length of barrel doesn't affect accuracy with their loads. But—if you handload and have a machine rest that can be trusted I'd like to see you try your pet load in the same gun with both lengths of barrel. Particularly would I like to be around for such a test if you have a pet load of the "Powder-Puff" variety. These light loads very definitely shoot better in my gun and from my rest with a 7½-inch barrel than they do from any shorter length. I get more uniformity and, therefore, less tendency for the bullet holes to string up and down in the group. Maybe my gun is different from yours and maybe my machine rest is different but light loads give me better groups from long barrels than they do from short ones.

The effect of side wind seems no more noticeable to me when shooting a long-barreled revolver than when firing under the same conditions with any other. Neither gun has the advantage in this respect so far as I have been able to discover.

One reason for my liking the longer barrels has nothing to do with paper-target shooting, and would not apply in a country less open than "down our way" in Texas. I hunt with the handgun and like the long sight-radius for shots that are far beyond revolver target distances. I don't want to use one gun for target range work and one for hunting, so think I am fortunate that the 7½-inch suits me for both. Even this would have no bearing on a shooter's choice did he live in a wooded section or one where the shots were at 50 yards or less. But it is fun to try for hits at 100 and 125 yards down here and that extra inch-and-a-half pays a dividend. (Please note that I very carefully said "try for hits"—nothing about getting them!)

I just read this over and grew to wondering why I've set forth my reasons for thinking a long-barrel revolver is best. What good can it possibly do even if I convince you that you should be using a gun with a barrel 7½-inches long or even an 8¾-inch if you want to go "all out." You probably can't buy one for love or money until the little boys from the Land of the Rising Scum have had their hides tanned. Now THAT would be shooting!

Ed McGivern

The Old Coach

THE SMALL BORE RIFLE AS A TRAINING WEAPON

THAT IT WOULD SOMEDAY be necessary for you to use your knowledge of marksmanship in your country's defense has always been uppermost in the mind of your old coach. That time has now come for all of us in the N. R. A. There is today no more worthwhile branch of Civilian Defense than this—the training of as many riflemen as possible, young men about to be drafted and home guards, so that all may be competent to go down to meet their enemies at the gate. Thousands of us older riflemen, rifle clubs, shooters with families, and best of all our graduates from the Small Arms Firing School can and must pitch in and do this work. We have the skill and knowledge, and we can find the time. We must put on our old shooting coat, pick up our match rifle and dope bag, and get to work.

This is about methods and tools. They are interlinked. We must use the best method of teaching. Fortunately it is also the quickest method because it is sure to turn out a good shot and it avoids all pitfalls. This is the method I have been urging all along, the method used by all the best N. R. A. coaches and shots, and the Army and Navy method. In fact it is the only method. Before we had this system it was only the extremely enthusiastic shooter who ever got to be a good shot. Now if a youngster will give us his interest and his time for two or three periods a week we can make him into a good shot in short order.

We are not concerned now in producing match shooters or "Master Riflemen." Rather we want to turn out thousands of young men who can shoot creditably in slow and particularly rapid fire, and to whom good shooting has become so instinctive that they will shoot well even under the excitement of facing our enemies.

Beside our knowledge of how to do it we have got to have the tools—rifles and ammunition. Now no one is going to give or issue us these tools. Get that out of your mind at once. There are no military rifles or ammunition available for our use. You are going to have to find these rifles yourself. You or your pupils or your friends are going to have to buy the ammunition. You will probably have to find your own range.

The match rifle is exactly what you need—the best of all weapons for your purpose. Just a "rifle of sorts" won't do for this work. Our system is based on first teaching the pupil to hold, aim and squeeze in the prone position, and you need a rifle that can be used correctly in that position—proper weight, dimensions, stock and sling. In these respects the match rifle is just right and just like the military rifle. The various hunting rifles and boy's plinking rifles are most decidedly not and do not lend themselves to our purpose at all.

The all-important trigger squeeze cannot be taught with a rifle having a rotten pull—your match rifle has an excellent, clean pull. In military service your pupils will have to use a rifle having a peep rear sight adjustable with minute clicks (the Garand). Your match rifle has exactly that kind of a rear sight. The military rifle has a flat top post front sight, and your match rifle has a disc of that type that you can slip into the front hood. To make the shooting interesting the rifle should be capable of giving your pupil the full value of his hold, aim and squeeze—your match rifle is that accurate. Ammunition must be cheap, easily obtained and must not wear out your rifle—all of which the .22 Long Rifle cartridge is.

There is a lot of loose talk going around among people who know no better that our enormous body of hunters have rifles, and that they should pitch in and train our young men to shoot. You and I both know how ridiculous this is. There are exceptions to the rule, of course, and most of them are in the N. R. A., but ninety per cent of our hunters know nothing whatever about rifle shooting, and the weapons they own and use are utterly worthless for training purposes.

Some few of us may have military rifles—perhaps a fine old National Match Springfield, or perhaps even a fine Krag. But we cannot get ammunition for them, and we would find it difficult to get a range on which they could safely be used. This about cuts them out, but they may be useful to teach nomenclature, dismounting and how to clean and care for the rifle—and also, to show the pupil how like a military rifle is your fine match rifle. Some of your pupils will feel, at the start, that they are not getting their money's worth shooting with a .22—that it's a boy's gun. When you get them started it won't take them long to discover that it's a man's game after all.

We of the small bore clan have proved to our complete satisfaction that the match .22 is the best of all weapons with which to teach a man to shoot well with the big bore. It has everything except expense, report, and recoil. It does not need a big range, or markers at the target. Several years ago Major John Hession induced two good small bore shooters to come up to Peekskill and enter the big bore matches there. These two shooters had never before fired anything but their .22 match rifles. The Major lent them his .30 caliber bull gun, and entered them in the 1,000-yard match. The first man to shoot broke the 1,000-yard world's record, and the second beat that record all to pieces!

The Army is at present using the .22 match rifle for all its basic marksmanship training because it is quicker and easier. A company commander can teach his men to shoot on an extemporized range back of the barracks, and without using up ammunition that is needed for combat. In addition to their .22 Springfields, the Army has purchased thousands of Winchester 75's, Remington 513-T's and Stevens 416's, and hundreds of millions of rounds of .22 Long Rifle cartridges.

Losses in war are in direct proportion to the lack of training of the troops—training in physique, discipline, and particularly in marksmanship. Marksmanship is our goal here, but let us also inculcate a little discipline in our pupils. Place rifles in the hands of a bunch of civilians for the first time and the Lord knows what they will be doing with them the next instant. Thus you should teach and insist on the various safety precautions from the very start. Cut out all tomfoolery, and make your pupils see the necessity of doing exactly as you tell them, and in just the manner you show them. Make them pay attention to every little detail. Keep them alert.

There is no time to waste. We can no longer count on

our Selectees having a year of training. There may not be time after they join the colors to train them to the point where good shooting is instinctive. And yet for their own safety, for that of their companions, and for victory they must be so trained. We rifle coaches can give these young men, and others going into defense organizations, this training. Again there is no time to lose. We have had our warning. The N. R. A. has sounded the Alert! Remember Pearl Harbor and particularly its lessons. Use your small bore match rifle for the benefit of youngsters if you cannot use your big bore on our enemies.

A Suggested Schedule For Quick Training

Based on afternoon or evening periods of individual instruction by a good coach. One coach can profitably take on from five to ten pupils per period.

PERIODS

1 Talk on safety precautions, discipline, names of parts of the rifle, principles of holding, aiming, trigger squeeze, calling the shot and sight adjustment.

3 to 4 (a) The prone position.
(b) Coordination of aim, hold, and squeeze.
Note: It takes 3 to 4 periods of practice in the prone position before the pupil gets accustomed to it, gets over his stiffness and begins to hold steadily. Until this has been accomplished, and he has become steady it is worse than useless to attempt to teach aim and squeeze in this position. But you can, while he is not actually getting used to the prone position, let him practice hold, aim, and squeeze, and even fire in the prone position with a sand bag rest, or from a bench rest.

2 to 3 Prone shooting. Hold, aim, squeeze, calling the shot, and sight adjustment. Afterwards cleaning the rifle.

2 to 3 (a) Sitting
(b) Prone rapid-fire
} As soon as 80% scores, slow-fire prone have been achieved.

2 to 3 (a) Offhand
(b) Sitting rapid-fire
} After 80% scores sitting have been achieved.

10 to 14 Periods for basic training.

Afterwards devote the periods to "three position shooting" slow and rapid-fire, until good shooting becomes instinctive. Then turn your pupil into a coach and make him train other beginners.

THE CARTRIDGE . . .

(Continued from page 31)

early Maynard, the Montstorm, which was experimented with shortly before the Civil War by the United States Government at the Springfield Armory, and many others. Most of these systems were fired by regular percussion caps or tape primers.

"Combustible envelope cartridges" were also supplied by the Colt Company and other firms in America and by Eley in England for the many makes of cap and ball revolvers in use during the fifties and sixties. The cases were made of metal foil and goldbeater's skin, as well as of paper. All three types were intended to be consumed by the flame of the discharge. They were packed in boxes containing the right number of cartridges for one load of a revolver cylinder, and were considered a great improvement over loose powder and ball.

An odd case, used in the Gilbert Smith carbine, patented in 1856, was made of rubber with a thin paper base to allow the flame from the cap to reach the powder. The rubber was supposed to help form a gas check at the joint of the breech, which came at about the middle of the case. It must have worked fairly well, as the Government bought thirty thousand carbines and nearly fourteen million cartridges during the Civil War.

Perhaps the most unusual of the paper-case cartridges was that made for the Greene breech-loading rifle. The arm itself, patented in 1857, was a bolt-action under-hammer weapon, rifled on the Lancaster oval bore system. The cartridge was as unusual as the rest of the arm. It consisted of a paper case containing a charge of powder and a conical bullet, with the bullet at the base of the cartridge. It was used by placing a spare bullet in the bore for the first of a series of shots. The bullet at the base of the cartridge acted as a gas stopper and was pushed forward to its firing position by the insertion of the next cartridge.

In order to overcome some of the drawbacks of the paper case cartridges, a number of types were put on the market, still fired by a separate percussion cap, but having thin metal cases which had to be removed after the shot was fired. Two of the best known of these were the Burnside and the Maynard.

The Burnside was patented in 1856. It was a falling-block carbine that received its cartridge backward into the block and then pressed it against the face of the breech when the block was closed. The cartridge was of brass, tapering from where it was crimped onto the face of its conical bullet back to its base, which was pierced in the center to admit the flame from the cap. Over fifty-five thousand Burnside carbines were used in the Civil War, and nearly twenty-two million cartridges. The Maynard rifle and its cartridge were the invention of Dr. Edwin Maynard, a dentist of Washington, D. C., and were made under his patents of 1851 and 1859. The Maynard cartridge was of fairly heavy brass with a large flat disc at its head that projected beyond the breech of the rifle for easy extraction by hand. It was pierced at the center of the base for ignition from a regular cap similarly to the Burnside. The Maynard case was reloadable with tools supplied for the purpose by the company. It was probably the first metallic case cartridge that could be used over and over again. Twenty thousand carbines and nearly three million cartridges were purchased for use during the war.

One of the earliest self-exploding metallic cartridge arms that was experimented with in the United States was the Morse breech-loading rifle. Patented in 1856, it was chambered for a short metallic cartridge that appears to have been a modification of the Lancaster type of center-fire case and to have been made from several parts. The government worked with Morse in developing the cartridge and converting military muskets to use it for trial from 1858 until the beginning of the Civil War. Most of the machinery was at that time at the Harper's Ferry Armory, and was captured by the Confederates. Morse, who was a Southerner, went South and supervised the use of his equipment to make arms and ammunition for the Confederacy. His system was never considered further by the Government as the war cut short all experimental work, and other types were taken up after the close of the war. It is probable that a great deal of modification would have been necessary in any case to make the Morse cartridge a success, as in a trial shortly before the war, twenty-eight out of one hundred cartridges missed fire.—*To be continued.*

POWDER SMOKE: READERS COMMENTS THE NEWS DESK

RE-LOADS . . .

THE GUNSMITH'S SIDE

Mr. Lewis Hazen's letter in the January AMERICAN RIFLEMAN is interesting from this side. As a member of the gunsmith family for a mere fifty years may I be pardoned if I say Mr. Hazen grasps only *his* side?

Generally speaking, it would be impossible in a small shop to follow Mr. Hazen's plan of finishing jobs in rotation. Would it be good policy to turn down a steady, bona fide customer in favor of one bringing a job only when having tried himself to replace or repair and, for lack of experience, has bungled sadly?—*M. Kirkwood Park, Malden, Mass.*

DOPE BAG WARNING

Not so long ago a paragraph appeared in the Dope Bag, I believe, warning N. R. A. members of a gunsmith who could not be depended upon for service. I do not know for certain but I think these warnings are still being published when necessary. If so, then why not report the men who frighten you into believing you will never see your pet firearm again. This would speed up the loafing gunsmith and, at the same time, be doing a good deed to your fellow riflemen. I have always thought of the AMERICAN RIFLEMAN as a medium through which the shooting world could improve the sport. Therefore, let the shooters blame each other for not knowing the gunsmiths who give poor service.—*M. L. Smith, Bryan, Texas.*

"ANSWER TO A PROBLEM"

We just want to thank you for the article "The Answer to a Problem" in the January issue of the AMERICAN RIFLEMAN.

The ex-Marine writing this letter took the distance from the trigger to the butt plate, in one of the illustrations of the rifle, as the unit of measurement and built the entire device as described and shown.

It has been in almost constant use whenever the range is open and we got the same results as described in the article. I feel compelled to write and tell you how much we value it, and to thank you and the Marine Corps for the information.—*Clarence S. Petty, Bogota, New Jersey.*

PRAISE OF THE SERVICE COURSE

I wish to express my appreciation of a suggested course of training for small bore rifle published by you in the June issue of the AMERICAN RIFLEMAN.

The "Service Course" probably got little support from the nation's dyed-in-the-wool small bore shooters. At least, that was my impression when it was tried by the old time outdoor club of which I am an officer.

As the map shows, we are in as "hot" a spot as you are at the Nation's Capital. At present the writer is helping instruct State Guard members and has instigated a "Citizens' Unorganized Rifle Group." In this last is the spot where your "Service Course" has proved its worth. The shooters bring their own .22's and ammunition, buy from the writer our five bull tag-board targets and shoot the course all slow fire until they become familiar enough with it to go "rapid." From there they go on to slow and rapid with their deer rifles at 100 yards.

Again, thanks for the good suggestion.—*L. H. Dodge, Huntington Beach, California.*

ANY OLD BOOKS?

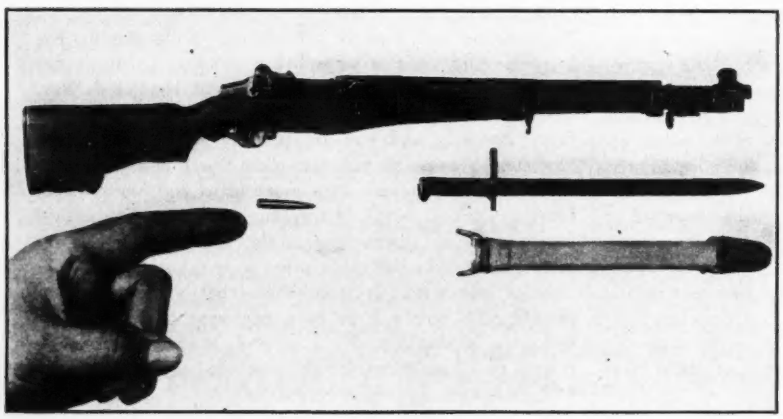
We would like to take this opportunity first to congratulate you on your splendid production which we feel certain is the best shooting periodical in the world.

It has occurred to us that in view of the destruction of our shooting library with the headquarters of the Society by enemy action in May last, if you could insert a paragraph appealing for any gift of old shooting books from your readers, this would be warmly appreciated by our Society.

You will note that with our library also went the bound volumes of THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN over the many years which you and I have been corresponding. We wonder if there is any chance of obtaining a surplus set of these volumes.—*G. Pethard, Secretary, Society of Miniature Rifle Clubs, "Mayleigh," Petersham Road, Richmond, Surrey, England.*

MINIATURE GARAND

I have just completed entirely by hand a 1/3 scale model of the M-1 Garand rifle and bayonet and thought that the enclosed picture of it may interest you.—*Andre Jandot, New York, N. Y.*



TIMED FIRE
With Bill Shadel

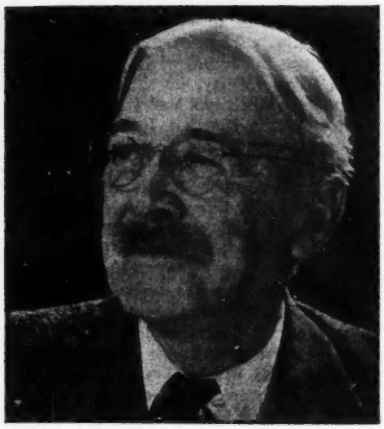
Word from Hawaii: One of the first letters reaching NRA offices from our clubs in Hawaii, following the Jap attack, is this entry blank for Gallery Leagues. It's dated Dec. 10, 1941. Name of League—All Hawaii; Address— Pacific Ocean; Captain's Name — Uncle Sam; Matches fired — at 1,000 to 30,000 yards. "we don't care"; and the note "Hi Gang, come on over and get in a real match."

There have been more rifle promoters popping up over the last few weeks than we've ever heard of before. Sadly enough, many of them have screwball ideas that will hurt the game more than it will help—that is, if they get a chance to carry them out. One "expert" advocating a training program for all citizens gets an interview in a New Jersey paper, with one choice statement. "I'll train them so they can pick off a parachutist before he hits the ground. Firing at a can tossed in the air before it lands on terra firma is the ideal way of practicing to become such a sharpshooter." Now, Mr. Expert, a rifle club member has checked on you and suggests: "Jersey City is like a miniature New York City. Can you imagine the fun (?) of tossing tin cans in the air and shooting at them within city limits?" And further, Sgt. Joe McCann, writing this month on "Airport Defense", says the military has found out it's mighty slim chances picking off the parachutist in the air. Better wait until he has just hit the ground and is helpless for the few seconds he's getting untangled from his ropes.

Another plan is indicated by an attorney in Iowa. "We want to buy a bunch of guns that would be effective in case of air raids or mass sabotage . . . and in this connection, tell us just where to look for what we want and what we need." The obvious answer, of course, is first look up your rifle club members for advice on guns for such an emergency, and second, use the rifle club of experts instead of distributing this "bunch of guns" to fellows who couldn't use them, safely or properly. We don't want any armed bands roaming about the country. Rifle clubs co-ordinated with local defense council plans is the answer.

Promotions: Chuck Rau, captain of the Infantry Pistol team at Perry, '39 and '40, now a Major in Second Armored Division. Lt. Col. L. W. T. Waller, Jr., former NRA president, now wears the Eagle on active service in Marine Corps. Gunner Cal Lloyd, well known Marine rifle coach, now Captain Lloyd. Range Chief Van Orden of Quantico Marines, now Major. Sid Hinds, pistol master and Camp Perry range officer, now Lt. Col. in armored division. Charlie Densford, flying pistol shooter, also boosted to Lt. Col., Air Corps. Especially to NRA's pride is its executive vice-president, General Reckord, now on leave of absence. Promoted from 29th Division commander to commander of the third corps area; the only National Guard officer to be so recognized.

Major William E. Trull



Born September 26, 1873, at Wheeling, West Virginia; answered the last roll call January 19, 1942, at his home, Mount Vernon, N. Y.

Major Trull lead an active and orderly life. He was a Lieutenant in the 71st Regiment N. G. N. Y. in the Cuban Campaign of the Spanish American War, and was the first soldier to be wounded and returned to New York City. Later he was a member of the 8th Regiment Coast Artillery Corps, N. G. N. Y. as a Major in the last war. He was also a Son of the American Revolution.

During these active and fruitful years, he was also a member of the firm of Deutchler, Trull & Justine, a lace importing firm in New York City. In his early fifties he was still active as a rifle and pistol shot and in 1926 won the Eastern Individual Small Bore Championship at Sea Girt, N. J.

When the crash came in 1929 his firm suffered heavily and eventually he retired from the business. In 1932, from a very humble beginning, he organized the Westchester Trading Post and built it up to a fairly profitable business. He was a familiar figure at Camp Perry, Camp Ritchie, the Annual Mid-Winter Matches at St. Petersburg, Gastonia and other shoots.

He made his last public appearance at Camp Ritchie in July 1941 and shortly after that he began to fail, lost interest, and for the first time in many years missed Camp Perry. He failed rapidly towards the end.

Despite the fact that he was a Mason and a Shriner, and had much Military Service, he was buried on January 22nd at Kenesco Cemetery, Valhalla, N. Y., with simple rites —he wanted it that way. He leaves three daughters, all married.

"Bill" Trull will be missed by many, and particularly "The Outers Club" of Mount Vernon, of which he was an active and honored member. The Shooting Fraternity has lost a good friend.—*Frank Kahrs.*

Capt. H. A. Hinch

Captain H. A. Hinch was born October 25, 1875, in Grundy County, Illinois, and died November 10, 1941, in Winston-Salem, N. C. He had made his headquarters in Winston-Salem since 1928. He was connected with the General Motors Truck and Coach Division, working out of Pontiac, Michigan, up until about four years before his death at which time he retired. During the first World War he served overseas with the regular army. He was a charter member of our club and served as executive officer. He had a host of friends and will be missed by all. He is survived by his wife, the former Miss Amy Stitt of Dwight, Illinois, and two sons, Howard W. of Dallas, Texas, and Donald A. of Roxwell, New Mexico. He was buried at Dwight, Illinois.—*Sam H. Dorsett.*

PENNSYLVANIA JUNIORS

Junior riflemen in the Keystone state have served notice that they intend to be the best organized group in the country. The new Western Pennsylvania Junior Rifle League held its first tournament January 31. This event was registered with the N. R. A. under the new Junior Registered Tournament plan. Nineteen teams and 180 individuals fire in the match and attended the dinner and dance which the sponsors had arranged for the evening. No one attending this event has any doubts about the future success of this organization. Shooters and clubs, Junior or Senior, located in the western part of the state, are urged to participate in the plans of the group and to give every possible support. An organizational meeting is scheduled for March 1st. Details of the plans of the W. P. J. R. L. can be obtained from W. H. Keister, P. O. Box 383, Oakmont.

The fine records of Pennsylvania High School rifle teams have resulted in the recognition of the shooting game as a major scholastic sport by the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association, state governing body of all schoolboy sports. Member schools will now award major letters to rifle team members. Leagues have been organized in the Eastern, Central and Western sections of the state and matches among the league winners will determine the state champion.

FIREARMS ABOARD SHIPS

Those of our members who "go down to the sea in ships" should be familiar with the provisions of the Act of Congress approved December 31st, 1941, and officially designated as Public Law 390, 77th Congress, Chapter 642, First Session. This Bill provides that no person may take aboard or have in his possession on board "any vessel registered, enrolled or licensed under the laws of the United States . . . and dangerous weapon, instrument or device, or any dynamite, nitroglycerine or other explosive article or compound . . . without previously obtaining the permission of the owner or the master of such vessel." A similar prohibition applies to "any vessel in the possession and under the control of the United States, or upon which a guard has been placed by the United States." In the latter case, permission must be obtained from "a Captain of the port in which such vessel is located." Exemptions are provided for military and police personnel.

IZAAK WALTON MEETING

Members of the Izaak Walton League will gather at the LaSalle Hotel in Chicago for their annual meeting March 26, 27 and 28.

Wednesday, the day preceding the general convention, will be devoted to a meeting of the National Executive Board and the annual dinner meeting of the national officers. Thursday, Friday and Saturday will be given over to reports and discussions with the annual dinner meeting slated for Friday night and the directors meeting and Executive Board elections for Saturday.

NEW BOOKS:

"PERCUSSION COLT REVOLVERS"

By JOHN E. PARSONS

For the first time in the history of gun collecting, an American art museum has placed on exhibition a major group of purely indigenous American firearms. In scheduling their showing of Colonel Sam Colt's revolvers for the three months starting February third, New York's great Metropolitan Museum of Art has brought together perhaps the finest and most complete series of percussion and conversion Colt revolver types ever assembled under one roof. Numbering 130 examples in all, the group includes examples to dazzle the most surfeited of collectors—twenty Patersons; two superb 1847 Walkers; presentation examples from the Colt Company's own vaults; the cream of half-a-dozen collections whose owners have spent years, and small fortunes, amassing these earliest of Paterson and Hartford firearms.

The catalogue itself, illustrating at approximately half-size nearly all of the 130 revolvers shown, is the work of John E. Parsons, from whose collection a goodly share of the pieces were loaned. While not attempting to list all of the ridiculously minor variations indulged in by the more meticulous gatherers of the enterprising Mr. Colt's products, it does cover in detail all of the basic, and even secondary, models from the first Paterson types through the conversions and early cartridge arms of the seventies. Included, too, are nine superb Confederates, from the arms cabinet of R. D. Steuart of Baltimore.

The exhibition is an indication of the trend of even the wealthier American collectors away from the products of Europe's gunmakers, and an awakening appreciation of our own craftsmen as having produced weapons to be classed as valid works of art. The Metropolitan has taken an initiative that may well open the way to seeing more of our own crafts on an entirely equal footing with those of the European nations.—John Scofield.

"Catalogue of a Loan Exhibtion of Percussion Colt Revolvers and Conversions, 1836-1873, by John E. Parsons, New York, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1942. 41 pages, 40 plates, $2.00.

"CIVIL AIR DEFENSE"

By Lt. Col. A. M. PRENTISS, U. S. A.

This thorough, text-bookish treatment of one of the most important problems now confronting the civil population of this country should prove indispensable to those responsible for air defense, whether connected with the Federal Government, city hall or industrial plant.

Covering every phase of aerial warfare including the methods and purpose of the air attack and its many effects, it will aid civilian defense organizations in determining the extent of the threat to the population.

The volume contains nothing new in the field, but is based on the best modern practice being used in Europe. Highly descriptive with 42 charts, diagrams and photos, "Civil Air Defense" will be a model plan source or reference for all community defense units.

"Civil Air Defense", by Lt. Col. A. M. Prentiss, U. S. A., published by Whittlesey House, McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., New York and London, 334 pages, 42 illustrations, $2.75.

BIG INDOOR DEWARS SLATED IN MARCH

Mid-western small bore riflemen will have two big indoor Dewar events on the same week-end this year, March 27, 28 and 29, at Chicago and Cleveland. This came about when, in arranging the Cleveland match, it was found that these were the only dates available in a busy civic sports program.

The University of Chicago matches, held in that school's vast Field House, will be another three-ring circus—combining the Mid-western Intercollegiate regionals on Friday, the Interscholastics on Saturday along with the Dewar open program which will run along the same lines as in years previous. This is the largest indoor match in the country and the University of Chicago and Athletic Director Metcalf are again throwing open the complete facilities of the Field House.

The second annual Cleveland event staged in the spacious underground exhibition hall of Cleveland's Public Auditorium also will continue on a program similar to that of last year when 189 competitors took part.

TAMPA, MIAMI MATCH DATES ARE CHANGED

Late changes have been made in the dates of both the National Mid-Winter Pistol Matches at Tampa, Florida, and the Miami International Pistol Matches. The big Tampa tourney has been pushed back two days and will be held from March 19 to 22. Miami will run from March 24 to 27.

C. A. (Smitty) Brown, promoter at Tampa, is announcing a three-day school to precede the annual match program. This will start on Monday, the 16th. Prizes of watches for the four class champions and a trophy for the woman's championship head an impressive list of match awards which includes target pistols, chinaware and silverware.

ST. PETERSBURG OPENS FLORIDA SHOOTING SEASON

The National Mid-Winter Small Bore Rifle Matches, occupying its usual four days at St. Petersburg, opens the 1942 Florida competitive shooting season on March 11. Running through the 15th, the match this year will be even more attractive than usual for lower classified shooters. For the first time prizes will be awarded in all matches according to the N. R. A. classification system.

FORMER OFFICERS NEEDED

Former officers, Regular or World War, not now connected with the Army, are sought for administrative positions. The War Department does not intend to call them to active duty as a group but some will be called as individuals to fill specific positions for which they are especially qualified. Former officers to volunteer may obtain from the Adjutant General's Office, Washington, D. C., "Veteran Officer's Questionnaires." Write to A. G. O.—not A. O. A.

PISTOL MANUAL

Mr. H. F. Worley, Director, Division of Training, Treasury Department, Washington, D. C., has compiled a new manual for the training of pistol shooters. Several hundred copies were distributed at Camp Perry last year. Persons responsible for training defense workers can obtain the manual by sending a request to Mr. Worley.

TOURNAMENT REVIEWS

WALSH, ROETTINGER SET RECORDS AT FAIRMONT, W. VA.

Walter Walsh and Lieutenant Phil Roettinger, friendly rivals on eastern pistol ranges, made the big headlines at Fairmont, W. Va., on January 18. Between them this pair cracked six national gallery records in a shoot which attracted 30 competitors. A seventh record was created by Verne Jubenville of Detroit.

Honors were about equally divided between the Arlington, Va., FBI agent and the Quantico Marine officer. Lieut. Roettinger set three individual records, Walsh set two, and they combined to raise a .22 caliber doubles mark. Walsh, however, came off with more competitive laurels, taking the .22 Aggregate and the Grand Aggregate while Roettinger was top man with the center fire guns.

Walsh broke the first mark, .22 slow fire, when he tallied 189. Jubenville followed with a new record 200 for timed fire, going out on the next string trying to increase the mark. Then Walsh, after winning at rapid fire with 194, set his second individual record, 291, over the .22 three stage course. This gave him an aggregate of 872 points.

Roettinger took over with the center-fire pistols after bowing to Walter's 191 at slow fire. He ran off three straight national records of 196 timed fire, 193 rapid fire, and 291 three stage course. His aggregate was 866.

In the .22 caliber doubles over the three stage course, Walsh's 291 and Roettinger's 286 totalled 577 for the seventh national mark.

Walsh's score in the Grand Aggregate was a powerful 1730, followed by Roettinger's 1714. Jubenville topped the Experts, Major George Van Orden led the Sharpshooters, and A. R. Tew was the best in the Marksman class.

ROETTINGER WINS D. C. HONORS IN ONE MAN SHOW

Lieutenant Phil Roettinger, who a week earlier had set three national individual records at Fairmont, W. Va., staged another show while grabbing top honors at the second annual Washington, D. C., .22 Caliber Championships January 25.

Deprived of another chance to vie with Walter Walsh when the Arlington, Va., G-Man was called on duty, Lieut. Roettinger cleaned up in three of the four individual clashes and in the aggregate. He topped the day by leading his Quantico (Va.) Marine team to victory in the team match.

Roettinger began his pistol shooting career little more than a year ago as a civilian at Wyoming, Ohio. Before joining the Marines late last year he fired well enough to earn the 27th ranking spot nationally.

Veteran Dr. William Cook of Washington, edged Phil by three points in the slow fire encounter with 182, but the Marine came back with a pair of 193's in the timed and rapid fire matches and a 290 over the three stage course. This gave him an aggregate of 855, 20 points ahead of U. S. Park Policeman Robert Mansell. Dr. Cook topped the Experts, Sergeant R. C. McIntyre of Quantico led the Sharpshooters, and Leonard Jerome of Washington beat the Marksman.

THIMMESCH IS BIG WINNER AT VALLEY PISTOL

Four victories in four individual pistol matches plus a 13-point victory in the Aggregate was the record of Donald A. Thimmesch, West Liberty, Iowa, Master, at the first annual Mississippi Valley Pistol Tournament at Wilton Junction, Iowa. Thirty-four shooters turned out for the January 25 shoot.

Thimmesch was closely pressed in only one event, the first, 20 shots slow fire. His total of 176 beat out Edward Maurer of Wilton Junction by a single point after Maurer threw away his chance by dropping 12 points on the final five-shot string. Thimmesch then hung up four five-shot scores of 49 for a 196 total in timed fire to beat R. C. Wild by four points. A 186 at rapid fire and a 275 over the three stage course gave him an aggregate of 833 with Wild's 820 easily good for second place. Arthur Phelps, Rock Island, Ill., was high Expert, Emil Westerman, Tiskilwa, Ill., was high Sharpshooter, and Ray Utterback, Davenport, Iowa, led the Marksmen. Matthew Kropp, Rock Island, topped the special Marksman-B shooters.

STOLEN GUNS

.45 Caliber Colt automatic, Serial 188182, marked "United States Property", stolen with 500 rounds of ammunition in shipment from San Diego, Calif., to Trenton, N. J. Communicate with Brigadier General J. M. Coward, Hotel Stacy-Trent, Trenton, New Jersey.

Colt Official Police, .38 S & W Special, Serial 624223. Blued finish, 4 inch barrel, checked back strap with Heiser open type holster. Smith and Wesson .38 Perfected, Caliber .38 S & W. Nickel finish. Barrel cut to 2 inches. Hammer spur and front half of trigger guard cut off. Black rubber grips. Reward for information leading to recovery of above two guns, stolen from car near Columbus, Ga., around January 5. Notify Lt. Wilfred E. Lang, Motor Maintenance Co., 1st Training Regiment, Fort Benning, Ga.

Three Enfield rifles, Serials: Winchester 28651, Remington 96252, and Remington 330873. Stolen from 109 Palm Street, Balboa, California. Notify Gordon B. Findlay, 3410 Coast Boulevard, Newport Beach, California.

Hi Standard pistol Model H. E., No. 51 802, stolen with money, jewelry and three watches from home of George H. Noonan, 156 Oak Street, Hartford, Conn.

CHALLENGES

Oneida Rifle Club, Oneida, N. Y., challenges other clubs to postal matches at 50 feet, 5 high of 10 shooters to count. Challenger may name sights and positions.

The Quinnipiac Junior Rifle Club of New Haven, Conn., would like postal matches for its boys' and girls' teams with similar teams in the northeast. Average age of girls' team is 16; boys' teams are in every age class. Challenger may name conditions. Write to Edward A. Kluck, 712 Orange Street, New Haven, Conn.

The Keene Rifle Club challenges any team in U. S. to a series of three postal matches, the following rules applying: 10 shots offhand, 10 shots prone, iron sights. Five high of entire team to count. Write to Ora B. Smith, 92 Blake Street, Keene, N. H.

N.R.A. GALLERY LEAGUES

PISTOL

Hawkeye Pistol League #1—Three stage course. Standings to January 16. Cedar Falls, 5–1; Mason City, 5–1; Centerville, 4–2; Davenport, 4–2; Ft. Dodge, 3–3; M'town, 2–4; Ft. Madison, 1–5; Algona, 0–6.

Hawkeye Pistol League #2—Three stage course. Standings to January 16. Wilton Junction, 6–0; Des Moines, 4–2; Moose, 4–2; M'town, 4–2; Iowa City, 3–3; Cedar Falls, 3–3; Davenport, 1–5.

Twin City Pistol League—Three stage course. Standings to January 26. Ohio State, 2–0; Michigan, 2–0; Minnesota, 2–0; Illinois, 1–0; Indiana, 1–0; Northwestern, 1–1; Purdue, 0–2; Iowa, 0–2; Wisconsin, 0–2; Chicago, 0–2.

RIFLE

Hawkeye Rifle League #1—Four positions. Marshalltown, 6–0; Wilton Junction, 5–1; Centerville, 5–1; Fairfield, 4–2; Mason City, 4–2; Iowa City, 4–2; Algona, 3–3; Mt. Vernon, 3–3; M'town Jrs., 3–3; Iowa Falls, 3–3; Prairie City, 1–5; Sumner, 1–5; Waterloo, 1–5.

Hawkeye Rifle League #2—Four positions. Oelwein, 6–0; C. R. Amazons, 5–1; Postville, 4–2; Des Moines, 4–2; Sumner, 4–2; Centerville, 4–2; M'town Ladies, 4–2; Waterloo, 3–3; Cresco, 3–3; Mt. Vernon, 2–4; M'town, 2–4; Nevada, 1–5; Algona, 0–6.

Southern Rifle League—Four positions. Standings to January 28. University of Chicago, 8–0; Lakeside Press, 7–1; Ceco, 6–2; Chicago Bridge, 3–5; Com. Edison, 2–6; Roseland, 1–6; Nathan Hale, 0–7.

Niagara Frontier Rifle League—Three positions. Lockport, 7–1; R. & H., 5–2; Buffalo, 4–3; Twin City, 3–4; South Buffalo, 3–4; Lewiston, 0–8.

Southwestern Ohio Rifle League—Three positions. Standings to January 28. National Distillers, 0–3; Mariemont, 2–1; Columbia, 2–1; Wilmo, 2–1; Miami, 3–0; Northside, 1–2.

Baltimore Rifle League "A"—Izaak Walton, 8–0; Towson, 7–1; Tindeco, 6–2; William Tell, 5–3; Sparrows Point, 4–4; Free State, 3–5; Northwestern, 2–6; Rangers, 1–7; Gwynns Falls, 0–8.

Baltimore Rifle League "B"—Crown, 3–0; Gwynns Falls, 2–0; Esso, 3–1; Balto. Sales Book, 1–2; Bal-Mar, 0–2; Towson, 0–2; Chesapeake, 0–2.

Chautauqua County Rifle League—Standings to February 2. Walnut Creek, 8–0; North East, 7–1; Mayville, 4–4; Dunkirk, 2–6; Erie Rod & Gun, 2–6; Jamestown, 1–7.

Alleghany Rifle League—Two positions. Kelly-Springfield, 1–0; Frostburg, 0–1; Cold Spring, 0–0; Cumberland, 0–0.

Upper Peninsula Gallery Rifle League—Kingsford, 1–0; Stambaugh, 0–1; Superior, 1–0; Hematite, 0–1; Iron River, 1–0; Gladstone, 0–1; Baraga, 0–1; Amasa, 1–0.

Red River Valley Rifle League—Four positions. Standings to January 24. Thief River, 3–0; Roseau, 3–0; Thief River, 2–0; Forks, 2–1; Forks, 1–2; Bronson, 1–2; Fertile, 0–2; Fertile, 0–2; Bronson, 0–3.

District Rifle League—Three positions. Standings to February 5. U. S. Aggies, 11–0; National Capital, 8–3; G. P. O., 8–3; Arlington, 8–3; Maritime, 7–4; National Capital, 5–6; Greenbelt, 5–6; Federal Marksmen, 2–9; Taylor Model Basin, 1–10; Christian Church, 0–11.

Northwest Rifle League—Westric, 7–0; Lakeview, 6–1; Humboldt, 5–2; DesPlaines, 3–3; Winnetka, 3–4; Edison, 1–6; Park Ridge, 0–7.

C. R. E. W. Smallbore Rifle League—Four positions. Standings to January 20. Eaton, 3–0, tied 1; Wellsville, 2–1, tied 1; Sylvania, 2–2; Cowanesque Valley, 1–3; Wellsboro, 1–3.

Northwestern Pennsylvania Rifle League—Four positions. Standings to January 24. Wolf's Head Oilers, 8–1; Walnut Creek, 7–2; Corry, 7–3; Lawrence Park, 5–4; Union City, 2–8; Titusville, 2–8; Meadville, 2–8.

Hudson Valley Rifle League—Standings to February 2. Schenectady G. E. A. A., 4–0; Wild Life, 3–1; Pittsfield G. E. A. A., 2–2; Coxsackie, 2–2; Forbes, 2–3; Victory, 1–3; N. Y. C. A. A., 1–4.

COMING EVENTS

The registered tournaments are indicated as follows: **B**—State Championships or large District Matches; **C**—Local. *Unregistered* matches are not coded. Classification of competitors for prize awards indicated by asterisk—**C***, etc.

MARCH

RIFLE

1 Oregon (C*), Annual Gallery, Toledo. G. A. Dykes, Toledo.
1 Minnesota (C*), Southern Minnesota League, Owatonna. R. Gunderson, 1100 W. College St., Austin.
1 California (C*), West Coast Metallic Sight, Glendale. E. C. Hamley, Jr., 821 W. Doran.
7–8 Ohio, Mariemont Rifle Club, Cincinnati. Dawson B. Sherick, 5636 Whitney Place.
8 Wisconsin, Fifth Annual Gallery, Independence. Dr. A. O. Torson, Independence.
8 Washington (C), Gallery Rifle, Spokane. Mrs. Mary E. Holt, 4118 N. Howard, Spokane.
8 Oregon (C*), Registered Gallery, Medford. Ivan K. Waddell, P. O. Box 1046, Medford.
11–15 Florida (A*), National Mid-Winter, St. Petersburg. T. F. Bridgland, 2742 2nd Avenue, South, St. Petersburg.
13–15 Illinois (C*), Midwest Gallery, Chicago. Roy E. Gaut, 501 E. 88th Place, Chicago.
15 New York (C*), Central New York, Oneida. Donald D. Devitt, State Police.
14–15 Pennsylvania, Lebanon Valley Indoor, Lebanon. R. M. Wheeler, 524 Spruce.
15 Wisconsin, Indoor Matches, Westby. Henry A. Nerison, Westby.
15 Oregon (C*), Registered Gallery, Portland. Paul R. Hespe, 1015 S. E. 12th Avenue.
15 Indiana, State Gallery, Indianapolis. John F. Holmes, 400 N. 4th Street, Lafayette.
15 Illinois (C*), Illowa Association Gallery, Quincy. Dr. J. G. Johnston, 219 W. 7th Street, Muscatine.
15 New York (C*)· Central New York, Oneida. Donald D. Devitt, State Police, Oneida.
15 Minnesota (B*), State Gallery, Minneapolis. Sgt. K. W. Cruse, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.
21–22 Kansas (C*), Western Kansas Gallery, Ellis. Dr. G. A. Surface, Ellis.
27–29 Illinois (B*), University of Chicago Indoor Dewar, Chicago. Russell Wiles, Jr., 5830 Stony Island Avenue, Chicago.
27–29 Pennsylvania, Philadelphia Metropolitan Junior, Philadelphia. Ed. Seader, 1826 W. Venango St., Philadelphia.
27–29 Ohio (B*), Indoor Dewar, Cleveland. D. A. MacRitchie, 1884 Lampson Road.

PISTOL

1 Minnesota (B*), Minnesota State, Minneapolis. Sgt. K. W. Cruse, University of Minn.
13 California (C*), Tamalpais Pistol, Alto. Frances L. Wadman, Route 1, Box 854, Mill Valley.
15 Indiana, State Gallery, Indianapolis. John F. Holmes, 400 N. 4th St., Lafayette.
19–22 Florida (A*), National Mid-Winter, Tampa. C. A. Brown, Hotel Thomas Jefferson.
22 Ohio (B*), 17th Annual Gallery, Columbus. C. I. Greer, P. O. Box 123, Barberton.
24–27 Florida (A*), Miami International, Miami. Clem Theed, P. O. Box 363, Coconut Grove.
28–29 Vermont (B*), Vermont Gallery, Northfield. P. H. Teachout, Underhill Center.

APRIL

RIFLE

19 Texas (C*), Bayou Rifle, Houston. Charles F. Hanson, 811 Shell Bldg.
4–5 Massachusetts, 7th Annual Junior, Beverly. David C. McNeill, 33 Beckford St.
11–12 Kansas (B*), Kansas State Gallery, Manhattan. K. A. Hugos, 223 Humboldt.
12–19 New Mexico, Coronado Cup. L. D. Wilson, Santa Fe.
18–19 Ohio (C*), 11th Annual Ohio Gallery Team, Columbus. C. I. Greer, P. O. Box 123, Barberton.
19 Massachusetts, Annual Patriots' Day, West Concord. D. J. Hardesty, Maynard.
19 Connecticut, Sofley Memorial, New Haven. Joseph Morin, 221 White St., Hartford.
25–26 Vermont (B*), Vermont Gallery, Northfield. P. H. Teachout, Underhill Center.
25–26 California (B*), State Small Bore, Richmond. James Pedroni, 205 Salinas National Bank, Salinas.
26 Pennsylvania (C*), Spring Rifle, Allentown. Alfred M. Newhard, 111 E. Susquehanna St., Allentown.
26 Wisconsin, Gallery Rifle, Madison. H. B. Jacobs, 1204 Drake St., Madison.

PISTOL

10 California (C*), Tamalpais Pistol, Alto. Frances L. Wadman, Route 1, Box 854, Mill Valley.
19 Wisconsin (C*), Registered Gallery, Madison. A. T. Mickle, 541 State Office Building.

MAY

RIFLE

3 California (C*), Northern California, Yreka. Paul Dodge, Lane Street, Yreka.
16–17 Louisiana (B*), Louisiana Small Bore, Baton Rouge. E. A. Saliers, University of Louisiana.
10 Tennessee (B*), Tennessee State, Knoxville. Robert Monroe, % T. V. A. Union Bldg.
17 Indiana (C*), Spring Rifle, Vincennes. Marvin M. Parr, 20 W. St. Clair St.
24 Iowa (C*), Restricted Rifle, Des Moines. G. G. Cooper, 816 Telephone Bldg.
24 Indiana (B*), Mid-West, Lafayette. C. B. Gildersleeve, Lafayette.
30–31 Oregon (B*), Medford Rifle, Medford. Ivan K. Waddell, P. O. Box 1046, Medford.
30–31 California, State .30 Caliber. James Pedroni, 205 Salinas National Bank Bldg., Salinas.

PISTOL

24 New Jersey (C*), Spring Pistol, Trenton. William Lewis, P. O. Box 1420, Trenton.

DOPE BAG ☆ ☆ ☆ Conducted by F. C. NESS

THIS MONTH:

.280 Ross · .280 Dubiel Magnum · .285 O. K. H. · No. 1 Elliott · No. 2 Elliott · Niedner .300 Magnum · Eric Johnson-M2 · Gebby-Diller Varminter Revolver Practice Rod · Easton Bench Reloading Tool · Trade Dope · Letters

.280 Ross, is a big-case Magnum-type cartridge for the M-1910 Straight-Pull Ross rifle, now obsolete. The rifle had a rugged bolt-action and receiver, but, in too many individual cases, it could be fired while improperly assembled and unlocked, resulting in a number of serious accidents which gave it an unenviable reputation. The sporting rifle was trim, handy and effective on game. Bore is .280 inch and grooves, .289 inch.

The twist was quicker than a turn in 9 inches. The bullet diameter was .287 inch and the long-range match rifles were accurate, whereas the M-10 Sporting Ross was not particularly accurate. The 180-grain bullet had a sectional density of .317 and a ballistic coefficient of .682 equalled only by Fred Barnes bullets of the same weight and caliber.

In long-range target-shooting it won a fine reputation for accuracy at Bisley, because the bullet and ballistics were of a character adapted for long-range shooting and principally because the bullets furnished by Sir Charles Ross for that very purpose had no equals for such long range accuracy. These jacketed bullets had long, slender points, on a radius of about 9 calibers, and a hollow base, the cavity being a 90° cone. In addition, the bullet was well-constructed and its jacket walls were of uniform thickness, insuring that desired concentricity in spinning and that uniform flight which obtains when the centers of mass and form coincide. Almost any .280 Ross match rifle shot well when these perfect bullets were used, and I was told they were supplied only to Ross match-rifle shooters in the long-range matches.

I copied the design and proportions of this fine .280 Ross target bullet when I had Lin Jordan make my swage for reforming .25-caliber bullets. Factory bullets reformed with it gave an improved ballistic performance of from 16% to 30% over a range of 600 yards.

The rimless bottle neck .280 Ross case held a lot of powder, and normal loads behind various weights of bullets ranged between 50 and 60 grains. The target load with the 180-grain bullet gave about 2700 f.-s. and the powder charges were, approximately, 50 grains of No. 10 or 52 grains of No. 300 or 54 grains of No. 15. The most famous game cartridge in this caliber was the old, U. S. C. Co., Hollow-Copper-Point, 143-grain load at 3050 f.-s. m.v. The gravity drop was 2.40 inches at 100 yards, 8.4 inches over 200 yards, and 20 inches over 300 yards. British ballistics gave the .280 Ross 2900 f.-s. m.v. with a 140-grain bullet at just over 40,000 pounds.

The trouble with the Ross action was that some of them had bolts with excess extractor-clearance or other clearance cuts which would permit the head, bearing the locking lugs, to turn and slip back, about an inch, upon the bolt body. When receivers accepted their bolts in this assembly position the action could be closed and fired without locking or engaging the lugs (spiral or screw type). Some gunsmiths fitted safety devices to these actions which would prevent firing until the bolt was properly locked. R. M. Campbell of Wilkinsburg, Pa., was performing this job on the M-10 Ross action a couple of years ago. The M-1905 Ross military rifle with conventional solid-type locking lugs did not give this trouble, because when its bolt head slipped back on the bolt body the receiver would not accept the bolt.

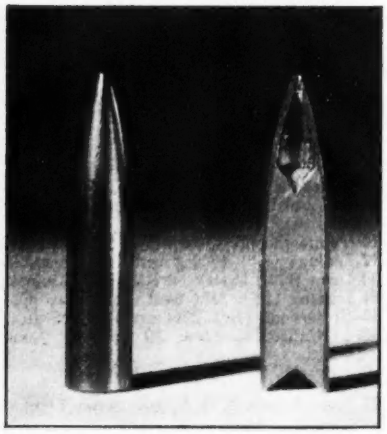
Sir Charles Ross, inventor of the rifle, wrote me in 1939 that the Canadian Small Arms Committee had a method of preventing incorrect assembly of the Ross bolt. Their design provided sufficient metal on the lower side of the right-hand lug to serve as an effective interference. Even so, some of the C. S. A. rifles figured in accidents, but the contributing cause was the removal of the safety feature by the filing off of this interference metal, according to Sir Charles, who went on to state:

"My own method of dealing with the problem was quite different. I simply offset the spiral in an axial sense. This was done because you have got a very much cheaper job and, as experience has now shown, a better one. An example of this type breech action happens to be on the table in my office and . . . will be glad to let you see it and let you play with it."

* * *

.280 Dubiel Magnum was a necked down .300 H. & H. Magnum belted case for .288-inch bullets. It is still available from the Niedner Rifle Corporation and from Griffin & Howe. The latter firm gave us the following loading dope: 52 grains of No. 4064 and the W. T. & C. W. 180-grain bullet for unknown rifles; also 56.5 grains of No. 15½ for 2900 f.-s. m.v. in a 26-inch barrel. The bullet drop is 2.16 inches over 100 yards, 8.45 inches over 200 yards and 22 inches over 300 yards. Another G. & H. load was 57 grains of No. 4064 with the W. T. & C. W. 150-grain bullet. In 1940 the Niedner Rifle Corporation quoted 3400 f.-s. for the W. T. & C. W. 145-grain bullet in a 24-inch barrel and minute-of-angle accuracy; also, 3000 f.-s. with the 180-grain bullet and a bullet drop of 8 inches over 200 yards and 17.60 inches over 300 yards.

The Ross Match Bullet



Back in 1939, L. W. Youngberg, who reshaped Service bullets for this caliber, wrote me: "I think the .280 Dubiel, if properly developed, will be the best long-range gun in the world. I made a slight change in its bullet (M1 Service reshaped) and a full load with this 170-grain boat-tail went into a group, 2½ x 4 inches at 600 yards; 2½ minutes elevation. This from a heavy bull-gun, 30-inch barrel and 9-inch twist. It is flatter and bucks the wind better than the factory match load in the .300 Magnum. This load keeps them inside 6 inches regularly and is really something for 600 yards."

Youngberg made some 600-yard tests for relative impact with rifles zeroed at 200 yards. The .280 Dubiel Magnum, with this reshaped (167-grain) M1 boat-tail, landed 60 inches low. The same Service bullet unaltered and fired in the .300 Magnum landed 69½ inches low. The factory 180-grain Match load in the .300 Magnum landed 79½ inches below aim, and the 180-grain W. T. & C. W. bullet fired in the .280 Dubiel Magnum landed 93 inches low. All loads were first zeroed at 200 yards, then fired at the longer range with the same sight adjustment.

This well-shaped Youngberg 170-grain bullet has a sectional density of .300 and a ballistic coefficient of .682, equalling the .280 Ross 180-grain long-range match bullet. In the .288-inch size the only bullet which tops it is the Barnes 180-grain, which has a relative coefficient figure of .720, and, like the Ross bullet, a sectional density of .317. The Barnes 160-grain bullet rates a coefficient figure of .579 with a sectional density of .281. The 140-grain Barnes follows with a coefficient rating, or "C" value, of .500 and a sectional density of .247. These latter two bullets have 8-caliber heads, all others mentioned in this paragraph having 10-caliber heads with the exception of the .280 Ross 180-grain bullet whose ogive is on a 9-caliber radius. These are our own measurements.

Other shooters who own and shoot both calibers, notably L. G. Humphrey, have remarked that the .280 Magnum outshoots the .300 Magnum. Probably this difference is accounted for by the superior bullets used in the .280 caliber. Humphrey said he had better accuracy and a flatter trajectory, by 19 inches over 600 yards, when shooing his .280 Dubiel. Even with bullets of the same shape and weight the .280 caliber has an advantage of .040 to .047 in sectional density, because its diameter is .020-inch to .023-inch smaller than the .30 caliber bullet.

* * *

285 O. K. H. is the intriguing, but little known, special cartridge developed by O'Neil, Keith and Hopkins. Some of the dope which I have says it is the .30-'06 case necked down but retaining the conventional shoulder. With standard straight loads this "is in the class of the .280 Dubiel, .276 Dubiel and .300 Magnum standard loads." With special patented O. K. H. Duplex loading it is a different cartridge, and because special-type Youngberg bullets or similar bullets are used

it should be effective at long range. In one test Elmer Keith used rifles zeroed at 400 yards and fired for relative impact at midrange. In this test the .300 Magnum with 180-grain O.P. ammunition printed 7½ inches above aim at 200 yards and the .285 O. K. H. with same weight of bullet went only 5 inches high. That is an extremely flat trajectory height for 400 yards. The velocity has been given variously as 3000 to 3500 f.-s. according to the load used.

Elmer wrote us that this load has a trajectory over 400 yards as flat as that of the .300 Magnum over 300 yards. The 400-yard trajectory of the .300 Magnum 180-grain factory loads is about 10½ inches, while that of the M1 Service load in the .30-'06 is a couple of inches higher. The 300-yard elevation required for this M1 Service load and its 173-grain B. T. bullet is 8 minutes of angle, whereas the 180-grain O. P. load in the .300 Magnum requires 7 minutes and the pointed bullet of the 180-grain Match load requires 6 minutes elevation for 300 yards. That would mean a midrange trajectory height of at least 4.71 inches for the best .300 Magnum factory load, whereas Elmer got a practical or apparent trajectory (not directly comparable) of just about the same height (5 inches) but over the longer range of 400 yards.

The .285 O. K. H. proved to be effective in long-range game shooting according to letters and manuscripts written by Keith. On one hunt the 160-grain load was fired in an M-70 Winchester sighted with the Lyman Alaskan scope zeroed to group 3 inches above aim at 100 yards. On game at long range this outfit put its bullets practically on the point of aim at 400 yards. If the scope was mounted low, or only 1.18 inches above the bore, and the gravity drop were only an inch at 100 yards, that 400-yard impact would indicate a total drop of only 20 inches and the remarkably flat midrange trajectory of 5 inches as reported by Keith.

* * *

Elliott No. 1 and No. 2. O. H. Elliott, builder of fine custom single-shot and double rifles on English actions, makes his .277 Elliott Express in two forms, No. 1 and No. 2. The No. 1 rifle is bored, rifled and chambered for the .284-inch 7-mm. bullet, and the No. 2 for the .277-inch .270 Winchester bullet. The latter has given slightly higher velocities in Elliott's experimental testing and load-development work. Both have been successful and so worthy he has been reluctant about standardizing on either in order to drop the other. The No. 1 (7-mm. bore) has given 3150 f.-s. with the 139-grain bullet and a charge of 48.2 grains No. 4064. This load in the No. 2 (.270-W bore) develops 3200 f.-s. with the 130-grain bullet. Groups smaller than an inch at 100 yards and fine killing effectiveness on deer at 250 yards have been reported with these Elliott calibers.

* * *

Bull Guns. Refer to the photo of the Pequot Self-Leveling Gun Rack on this page. The top gun is a .300 H. & H. Magnum with full-size Bishop target stock. In the middle is a .22 Long Rifle heavy-barrel target rifle with an identical Bishop target stock. At the bottom is a .22 Varminter with Stoeger Olympic stock. The fourth set of notches is empty because this rack will not accommodate any other of our target guns, making it a 3-gun rack for such arms. With the deep notches on the left the bolt handles are exposed, but the very ample concave cheek pieces do not show. Some bolt knobs project too far to permit any other arrangement of this rack.

The Bishop combs have a broad-top rolling sweep and are very comfortable. None of the buttstocks have been trimmed for length and they are unnecessarily long for prone and altogether too long for other offhand positions. So far, I have used these rifles for test shooting. For match work the butts will be trimmed about an inch because as shown they measure 14½ inches to the trigger. The Bishop forestocks also are full enough to permit trimming to suit individual taste; as shown they are 1¾ inches deep and 2⅜ inches wide at the left-hand grip.

The polished black Tenite trim on the matched pair is set off by contrasting white lines at the butt, pistol-grip and forestock tip. These were all fitted by E. C. Bishop & Son and all except the Mershon No-Slip buttplate on the top rifle were also furnished by the Bishop firm. These stocks were furnished by them ready-inletted and semi-finished. They were fitted and surface-dressed by our friend, C. A. Francis, and the bedding was finally refined after some preliminary shooting. We also applied the finish and got the American walnut of both stocks to match, although plain linseed oil was used on the .22-caliber stock and Stewart-Valentine stock finish on the .300 Magnum.

The rifle at the top has a 30-inch barrel which tapers from 1¼ inches to an inch at the muzzle. It was made and fitted to our M-1917 action by the Niedner Rifle Corporation. I picked this action as the very best for this purpose. Because this big belted case consumes great quantities of powder, we have not as yet developed its ultimate accuracy, but we regularly get V-ring groups at 600 yards with our handloads and with factory match ammunition. The scope, in Lyman Target mounts, is a fine Hubalek 20X, with T. K. Lee center-dot cross hairs, that leaves nothing to be desired for accurate aim.

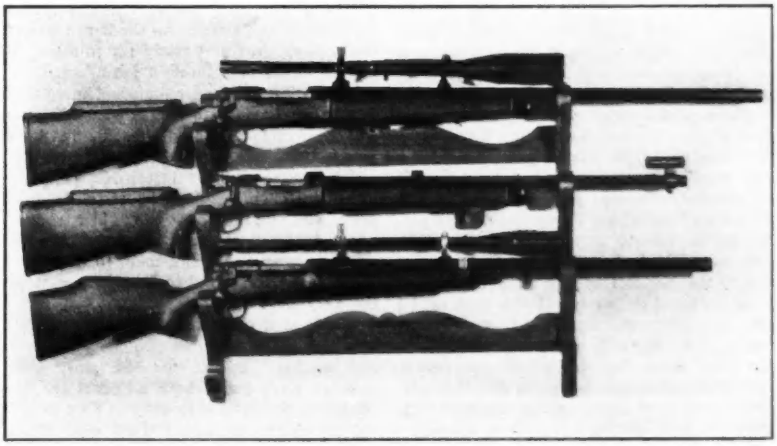
The identically-stocked small-bore target rifle, just below it, has a 26-inch barrel made and fitted to an M2 Springfield action by Eric Johnson. The straight cylinder at the breech has a diameter of 1⅛ inches stepped down to an even inch and then tapered to ⅞ inch at the muzzle. This is a fine match rifle for testing target ammunition. It has a special trigger mechanism, the Pike Self-Setting, which permits adjusting the weight of pull and provides a short-movement let-off. That block under the forestock is the Freeland handstop and sling holder which is adjustable for position fore and aft. The front sight is a Wittek-Vaver in a detachable barrel-clamp ring. The receiver carries a base for our Goss target peep sight. With more than one target brand of small-bore ammunition, suited to its 8-groove barrel, this rifle has given fine accuracy, including several 10-shot groups smaller than the X-ring at 100 yards. It is at its best at 200 yards.

The .22 Varminter on the bottom has a 27-inch Diller barrel tapered to an inch at the muzzle from 1¼ inches at the breech. It was chambered and fitted to our M-1917 action by J. E. Gebby who also fitted it to our Stoeger Olympic stock. This stock was actually obtained as a sub-standard reject, but it has proven to be very satisfactory since the preliminary shooting and refinement of the bedding. This is a finely accurate high-velocity varmint rifle with many minute-of-angle groups to its credit. It is particularly useful for testing purposes because of its adaptability to a wide range of loads and velocities. Thus it permits testing different weights of .224-inch jacketed bullets at different velocities or a given bullet at many different speeds over a wide range of muzzle velocities; from 1500 f.-s. to 4000 f.-s. The target scope is a 10X Unertl in Fecker precision mounts. This scope has a tiny Lee center dot not much bigger than the cross hairs and it covers considerably less target area than that of the standard small-bore X-ring.

* * *

Revolver Practice Rod. We sent five fired cases from our .38 O.M. Colt to Samuel F. Rosenberg of the Essex Target Practice Rod Company and got them back with five dummies to fit as many chambers and a brass tube for the barrel. This brass tube has a longitudinal slot which can be used for prying the tube until it fits the bore snugly and thus holds its position. It contains a brass plunger ending in a sharp point which projects beyond the muzzle. There is also a knurled stop collar at the muzzle which allows the back end of the inner rod to project out of the barrel breech about 1/32 inch. A coil spring keeps it back.

The Three Bull Guns



The five dummy cartridges have somewhat similar spring-actuated inner plungers which project from the noses of the brass bullets like a teat. The opposite end passes through the primer pocket and ends flush with the base of the cartridge case. When the revolver hammer falls and the firing pin hits this brass plunger it jumps forward and communicates the blow to the long plunger in the barrel. This plunger darts forward swiftly to the limit of its travel (about 3 inches) and then its spring quickly returns it to position for the next shot. Because of its immediate return to battery, rapid-fire can be simulated or even double-action fire. By placing a reduced scoring target within range of the darting point, scores can be recorded, as the sharp point will clearly register a separate little prick in the target paper for each "shot". Miniature targets and a holder for same are a part of the outfit as sold.

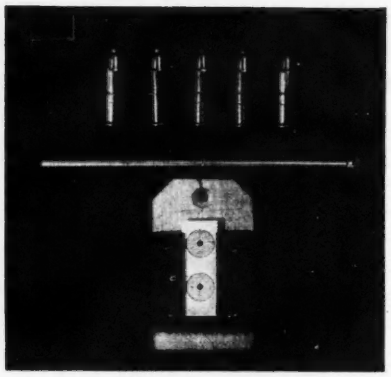
There is no change in the functioning and handling of the gun, except to cock the piece for the beginning of each five-round string, because the plunger must be pulled out a fraction at the muzzle to clear the sixth, or empty chamber, as this void blocks the cylinder at the end of each string. This is a good arrangement because it forces the practicee to always think and act in terms of five-round strings, exactly as he must on the firing line in any properly conducted match. We got around this, experimentally, by using a dummy cartridge made from a fired .38 Special case by seating a Bond-Ness wadcutter bullet cast of zinc the required distance out of the case mouth.

The target can be hung at any level desired or to conform with the elevation or angle of aim in use at the shooter's club range. The tiny black bull is just the width of my Colt front sight as aimed at arms length from my eye. The sharp pointer accurately pricks holes which are so cleanly defined that individual holes can be scored even in a "tight" group. It is a sound, practical gadget and a very timely one, as it permits revolver practice without primers, powder, lead, tin, or antimony. It is made of brass, but it should last a long time, and one outfit will permit endless practice with that pet revolver.

* * *

Easton Bench Tools are of the vertical type with right-angle feet punched with four holes for screw or bolt anchorage to the bench top. The upright measurement of the press proper is 9 inches. These straight-line presses are designed to take threaded dies; other makes or Easton's, according to the customer's choice. Phil Sharpe praises these new tools highly in the 80-page supplement of the second edition of his well-known book on handloading.

About middle April, 1941, we received the first Primer Pocket Reforming Press from A. A. Easton, 225 So. State St., Salt Lake City, and were impressed by its accurate work on clinched-in .30-'06 primer pockets and in reforming bastard-size Frankford Arsenal pistol-case pockets to fit commercial .45 A.C.P. primers. We had only a single criticism; about the disposal of the ring of sheared brass. However, we found this first model and the improved one which replaced it too frail to warrant favorable mention in the June Dope Bag for which our review had been scheduled. Because we damaged these tools with less than 200 cases we suggested a re-design for adequate sturdiness.



The Practice Outfit

Early this year, we received the new model as now made, and it seems to be quite satisfactory. After reforming clinched-in .30-'06 pockets and F.A. .45 A.C.P. case pockets we feel we can now recommend it unreservedly. It does beautiful work. Trying commercial primers in the altered pockets we had only one malfit per hundred cases, or 99% of perfection. It also is speedy and convenient. To try it we merely clamped the press to the edge of our work bench.

Occasionally, the hinged mandrel, or anvil, at the bottom, is tipped too far when pulling off a case and then it has to be picked up from its horizontal position which constitutes the only break in the smooth, fast rhythm of operation. The straight, ½-inch, round, steel handle is about 10 inches long, but an auxiliary end of wood or metal is desirable, as the palm becomes pretty sore after reforming a couple hundred cases. A short length of pipe could be slipped on and off easily. There are two pocket punches; the tapered .30-'06 punch is used as a starter and then the pistol cases are run through again using a square-edge bottoming punch to properly dispose of the displaced metal. Thus, two operations are required on pistol cases. While this takes longer, a much better job results.

With the .30-'06 anvil and tapered punch in place, clinched-in primer pockets can be quickly ironed to normal condition. Very little force need be applied for this purpose. The first models sheared the flange loose, and the little ring of brass had to be picked out of the pocket afterwards. The new punch neatly folds and compresses the flange leaving the pockets clear and ready for primers. It does as neat and accurate a job as our C. V. Schmitt die-and-plunger tool, and more conveniently. Leaving this taper punch in place and changing to the .45 A.C.P. anvil, or mandrel, we can alter the pockets of F.A. pistol cases to take Remington No. 2½ pistol primers. Then, leaving the pistol anvil in place and changing to the wider square-edged bottoming punch, we must run the pistol cases through once more to dispose of the displaced brass and to true the pockets to the very bottom.

The Easton presses are of a clever design, and they have a severe simplicity of form and outline. Except for the pins, bolts, punches, anvil and handle, all parts are flat, square or rectangular in shape. Two heavy, square-section side-rods, about 8½ inches long, hold the tool blocks and their cross bolts and guide the sliding member. The links are flat and they move inside these two guides. The handle block, or cam block, is at the top in this one, whereas in the Easton reloading presses the dies are at the top. These two side rods are held to the side plates of the stand by the above-mentioned cross bolts, and external self-locking hexagon nuts. The back side is perpendicular, but the front slopes backward at a steep angle. The handle is screwed into the cam block. Holes are drilled through the handle and the interchangeable tools, and a turning wrench or rod is provided for removing and replacing these parts. Special steel is used for each different job to meet its requirements, and I believe these Easton presses, tools and dies will prove to be very durable.

TRADE DOPE

Chemical Publishing Co., Inc., 234 King Street, Brooklyn, N. Y., have a stapled catalog of "technical books on all subjects" for 1942, which list might contain one you are seeking.

* * *

Vernor Gipson, who now has 178 different reamers (many with several different pilots) for as many different special cartridges, has become a Naval Inspector, which new job will greatly curtail his custom gunsmith work.

* * *

Richard Stam informed us in middle January he has stopped making his Adjustable Cushion Rubber Cheek Rest for the "duration."

* * *

Pacific Gun Sight Co., have an interesting testimonial advertising Stewart 2 X 2 bullet lubricant, with a cut of a 10-shot group of 1¼ inches fired at 50 yards, machine rest, by R. C. Skaggs, who has a bullet-metal story in this issue and has promised to write another for us on bullet lubricants.

* * *

South Bend Lathe Works announce a 4-page, letter-size bulletin (a condensed catalog designed for convenient filing) on their products, including their new No. 2-H Turret Lathe. This bulletin, 67-T, is available through their department A9, South Bend, Indiana.

* * *

Products from Sweden, Inc., 232 Broadway, New York, N. Y., include, in their list, skis of Swedish birch and ski poles of split bamboo for children.

* * *

Union Hardware Co., has discontinued certain brass products, such as their rifle cleaning rods No. 139, 140 and 141B, and their shotgun cleaning rod No. 3195. The new rifle rod, No. 141S, is a 3-joint plated rod with brass threaded-end tip. The No. 95 shotgun rod is retained and still available.

* * *

Vard, Inc., has taken over the assets and liabilities of Vard Mechanical Laboratory. The new firm will conduct the business under the general policy laid down by Mr. Vard B. Wallace (president) who was individual proprietor of Vard Mechanical Laboratory up to the end of 1941.

J. C. Long of Centralia, Illinois, announces a 3-shot autoloading shotgun in 28 gauge which handles 2½-inch to 2⅞-inch cartridges. He claims fine functioning and fine 40-yard patterns from modified choke barrels. He used a 20-gauge autoloading frame (make unknown) and a standard 28-gauge barrel in combination. He says the gun weighs 6½ pounds.

* * *

Jack Ashurst says he has not adopted and, therefore, cannot supply any of the short-necked McCrea creations as shown in the cut of Magnum cases, February Dope Bag. Ashurst, 531 W. Valley, El Monte, California, can supply custom jobs on a 7-mm. Magnum caliber based on the .300 Magnum belted case. He also has a .22-'06, unchristened but thoroughly tested, sans chronograph. Groups submitted indicate accuracy.

* * *

Albree Items. G. Norman Albree informs us his Keeper's Keeper is obtainable from dealers only; the chromium one (no longer made) only from Winchester. His small-bore Dope Books are still available from dealers. The No. 1 Monomount and the Twinmount are completely sold out, but the No. 2 Monomount (small stock still available) can be adapted and substituted for either. The Holster Bolster is still available with O.D. web straps. While the leather stock lasts it can be furnished only pieced (three short pieces spliced into one leather strap) as no long (one-piece) leather straps are obtainable.

* * *

M. L. Smith, the Slick-Trigger gunsmith of Bryan, Texas, has improved his job on the M-1917 action. In fact, all Slick Triggers delivered in 1941 were of this improved type, although he is just now announcing it. He has also substituted needle steel for the No. 1 high-test rod formerly used in his bolt alteration job in order to provide a harder and tougher surface for the slide. An important improvement is the setting back of the trigger in the guard for a shorter release and more room for the trigger finger under the bolt knob.

* * *

Carl B. Cramer says his Cramer Bullet Mould Company has given up the manufacture of bullet moulds for the duration.

* * *

S. M. (Shelly) Smith, son of the well-known "Ithaca Lou", has left the Ithaca Gun Company to join the Service as a 1st lieutenant in the reserve corps. He holds a civilian pilot's flying license. His brother, Charles, is a co-pilot with P.A.A. and expects to taxi bombers soon.

* * *

Paul D. Ratliff is preparing a working chart of the automatic ejector for Winchester S.-S. actions chambered for rimless cartridges. Only a limited number will be available. See his ad, this issue. This is the outcome of the Dope Bag story in the April, 1941 issue which showed a picture of Ratliff's S.-S. rifle in .30-'06 caliber.

LETTERS

"Cadence." The enthusiasm with which the average tyro, marksman, yes and expert too, practice rhythm in timed and rapid fire startled me. They have, I feel, misinterpreted the fine articles on rhythm and cadence. This started some months ago and finding it more wide-spread as the indoor shooting accelerated, I feel it necessary to write this word of caution. They feel they must fire their shot on the "down beat" of the metronome, whether they are on the ten-spot or in the six-ring. That is not the idea at all. We cannot become a precision instrument, because, from the tips of our toes to our brain cells, we are living, breathing and moving mortals. There is not a person on earth who can hit a nail in the same spot five times with the exact strength and identical hammer-stroke timed to a split second.

Cadence or rhythm in firing your string means to space your shots so that you do not spurt for two or three and "sleep-out" four and late on five. To fire on the "down-beat", right or nearly right, does not count when perhaps your reflexes take more tension on one shot than on the other. Space your shots so that you have the time for that final ten-spot line up, no matter what shot in the string develops the bug. We cannot sling our shots on the beats one, three, five, seven and nine and say that it must be the load if a few sixes or sevens are punched out. Many a time my best score in rapid fire, when accurately timed, read like this: zero, (this one is important) three, (the shock was gone) five and one-half, (there, ride it easy) seven one-quarter and nine and one-half.

Cadence, in the shooter's dictionary, is to reasonably space out your shots equally in the seconds alloted, spending as much time as necessary on the sight alignment that needs it—Louis E. Capek.

* * *

Hypothetical. A cannon fired 90 mph from the rear of a train running 90 mph. Will the cannon ball drop off the rear or travel, or will the cannon ball go by the 100 ft. point the same time as the train passes the 100 ft. point in the opposite direction?

Two pistols, .45 caliber, simultaneously are fired in opposite directions from the rear end of a train running 90 mph. Which pistol shoots the farthest from the point where the pistols were fired? What is the approximate distance?—W. T. H.

Answer: A speed of 90 mph equals 132 f.-s., which we will call average speed over a range of 132 feet for convenience, making the total time one second. Say the muzzle velocity is 180 ft. and the remaining velocity 84 ft., the velocity in relation to the barrel is 2/3 of 180, or 120 f.-s. In a 3-foot barrel the barrel time would be 1/40 of a second. By the time the ball emerged at the muzzle, the cannon and train has moved back 1/40 of 132 ft. or 3.3 ft. The free ball then has 135.3 ft. to travel to the target, while the train has only 128.7 ft. left to travel. The speed of the ball is constantly diminishing and the speed of the train remains constant. The train will naturally reach its mark first.

The range of the .45 A.C.P. bullet is about 2000 yards. The barrel time is about .0014 seconds. The one ball would leave the muzzle at a point 2½ inches nearer the mark and the other 2½ inches farther from the starting mark. This is the only difference, or 5 inches in distance. The pistol fired in the direction of the train would have an advantage of the train speed or 132 f.-s. muzzle velocity added to its bullet. This would possibly increase the range 150 yards.

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FLAIG BROS., Hunters Lodge, Millvale, Pa.

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WINCHESTER 70 STANDARD HORNET, Weaver 440C scope, Redfield Jr. mount, high comb and cheek piece, sling. 350 cartridges. Outfit same as new. First $110.00. Roy Howell, R. #3, Box 194-B, Piqua, Ohio. 3-42

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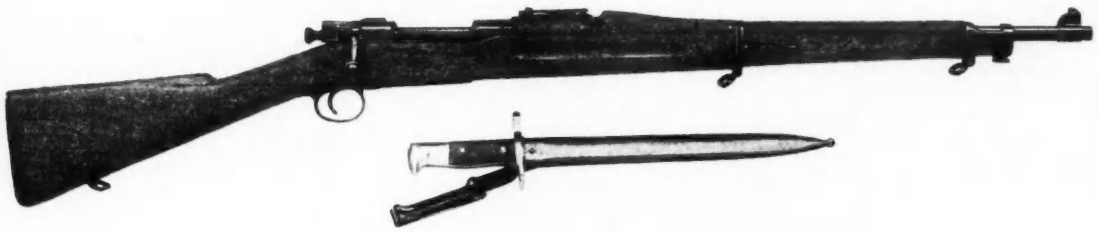

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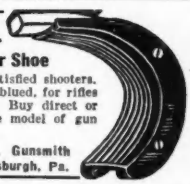

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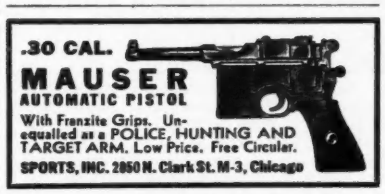
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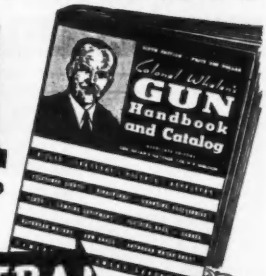

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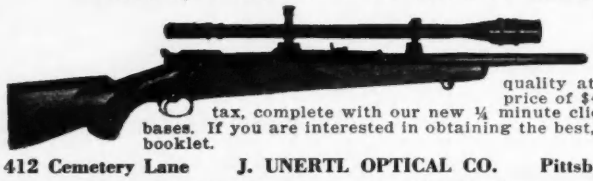

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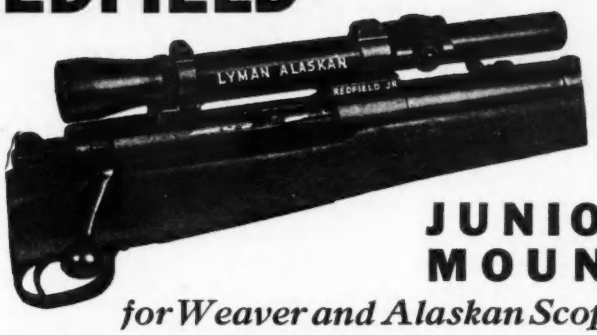

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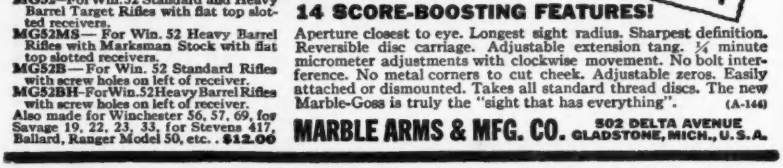

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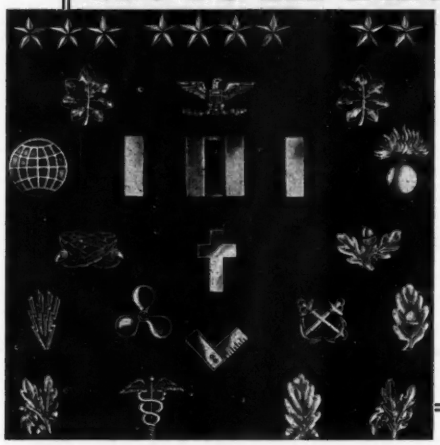

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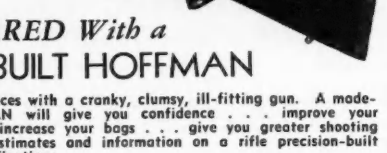

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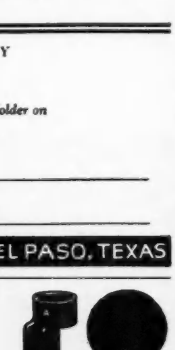

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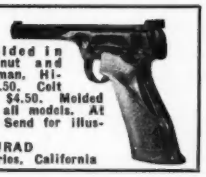

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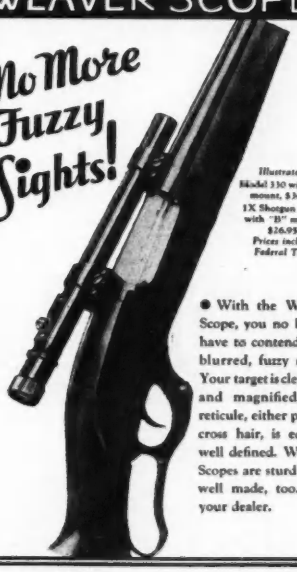

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SELL OR TRADE: 7 x 50 CARL ZEISS BINOCulars, good condition, $115.00. Winchester 12, 12 gauge modified, fair to good, $27.50. 30 Cal. Luger, good, $22.50. 32 Colt Police Positive, 2½", inside good, outside fair, $17.00. 32 S. & W. nickeled, pearl handles, fair, $17.00. 32-20 Colt Army Special, blue, 4", excellent, $26.00. 45 Frontier, inside good, outside fair, $17.50. Enfield Sporter, excellent, $40.00. Colt 1917, good, $22.50. Drawing Instruments. O. H. Lloyd, 1005 Oliver Eakle Bldg., Amarillo, Texas. 3-42

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RARE—ISSUE OF THE NEW YORK HERALD, April 15, 1865, covering Assassination of President Lincoln. Stevens Ladies' Model 44½, .22-15, some tools, cases, bullets. Paul Ratliff, N4912 Market, Spokane, Wash. 3-42

WILSON NEEDS .45 CAL. AUTOS AND Lugers. Describe fully and state price in first letter. Will trade. Wilson's, 3082 West 25th Street, Cleveland, Ohio. 3-42

TRADE—FECKER 1½ 20 POWER, EXTRAS, excellent, $100.00 value; for 16 gauge Model 21 Skeet or? George Gardner, Life Member, 107 Early St., Wellsville, N. Y. 3-42

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'06 ARMY SPRINGFIELD, $45.00. '06 ENFIELD, $35.00. 38 Colt New Service 5½ inch barrel, $25.00. 45 Colt Army Model Automatic, $25.00. 22 Colt Woodsman, $26.00. Krag Sporter with Weaver 29-S Scope, $35.00. All good condition, will ship C.O.D. S. Wilson, Domingo, N. M. 3-42

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FECKER 1⅛", 10X, ¼" CLICKS NO. 2 CROSSwires new never used, $55.00. Winchester Model 71 Deluxe factory grease, $65.00. Argus 55mm. 20X spotting scope, new, never used, $50.00. No trades. P. Ambrose, 820 Bridge St., Bethlehem, Pa. 3-42

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WANTED—HEAVY BARREL 52 AND REMINGton 37. Very good or better. Give description and price. Lee Cooper, Warrensburg, Mo. 3-42

FOR RENT! TOOLS, MOULDS, DIES, IN 25-20, 32-20, 250-3000, 30 calibers, 45-70 and others. Send stamp for details. Helmer Romness, Zumbrota, Minnesota. 3-42

M1 SPRINGFIELD 22 CAL. N.S. BOLTS new less firing pin assembly, $4.50. 30-06 blanks, $4.00. 100 32 Remington ammunition (Rifle), $5.00-100. S.P. or M.C. Krag actions, V.G., $7.50, complete. Bishop stocks, all makes, inletted rough finished $5.00 delivered U.S.A. Flaig Brothers, Hunter's Lodge, Millvale, Pa. 3-42

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SELL ONLY: M12 W. 12-30 FULL, EXTENSION fore-end, special checking, V.G., $35.00. Remington 141 130 good, accurate, $23.50. .45 Colt Auto, V.G., to Ex. in and out, special smooth safety, $24.00. .32 Colt Auto, V.G.,$20.00. Curtis Schulz, Hardin, Montana. 3-42

.35 S. & W. AUTO, $20.00. .36 COLT NAVY, $10.00. Kar '98, $17.50. 10" sawtooth, scabbard, $5.50. Condenser can, $7.50. Others. Sewing machine motor attachment, $12.50. WANT—Enfield, bayonet, short barrel .38, Luger stock. W. W. Bates, Route #2, Columbia, S. C. 3-42

LARGEST OFFERING OF SINGLE SHOT Rifles in America, not priced at a "Song." No list. State wants with stamp. "Single-Shot" Ratliff, N4912 Market, Spokane, Wash. 3-42

WINCHESTER 1895 MODEL, 30 U.S. (KRAG ctg.) Lyman #21 and 41 sights, good condition, $28.00. Winchester 1895 Model, 405, excellent condition, barrel perfect, recoil butt, $35.00. Kirkwood Bros., Inc., 23 Elm St., Boston, Mass. 3-42

FOR SALE: .22 KILBOURNE HORNET ON 1903 Springfield action, Sedgley stock and barrel, Lyman blocks, perfect inside, excellent outside, $45.00. John Kallas, 1413 Ogden Ave., Superior, Wisc. 3-42

FECKERS, 1½", 16X, ¼" CLICK MOUNTS, perfect condition, $75.00. 1½", 12.5X, ¼" Click Mounts, perfect, $55.00. 6 Winchester Model 70 Std. Sights Cal. .30-06, new, $78.45. No trades. Walter Ambrush, 409 W. Union Blvd., Bethlehem, Pa. 3-42

.41 REMINGTON DERRINGER, $8.00. .38-40 Colts Single Action, nickel, fancy handles, $19.50. .41 Colts Single Action, $17.50. 97 Winchester 12, 30" Full, $22.50. All good. Winchester 12-20-28 Modified, excellent, $35.00. Walter Price, 922 Rogers, Okmulgee, Oklahoma. 3-42

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ENFIELD PARTS LIKE NEW. COMPLETE bolts, $4.75. Extractors, $1.10. Firing pins, $1.00. Ejectors, 60¢. Stripped bolts, $2.25. Colt 45 Auto parts. Slides new, $7.00, used A-1, $5.00. Slide stops, 50¢. Barrel bushings, 60¢. Recoil spring guides, 40¢. Extractors, 50¢. Firing pins, 50¢. Safety grips, $1.00. Hammer, 75¢. Magazines, $1.00. Etc. Mauser 98, Krag, Springfield parts. Flaig Brothers, Hunter's Lodge, Millvale, Pa. 3-42

WANTED—MODEL 37-R RANGEMASTER OR heavy 52, accurate and perfect. Trade Colt Police Target 22, accurate and good shape as part payment. Harold Forsberg, Appleton, Minnesota. 3-42

LATEST REMINGTON 37, 20X ARGUS WITH Badger stand, 8X, 1 inch Unertl. All excellent. Walter Brooks, R. #4, Box 78, Terre Haute, Ind. 3-42

WANTED—CASH PAID FOR ALL KINDS of Guns, Rifles and ammunition. What have you? H. E. Roehrs & Co., Closter, N. J. 3-42

WANTED—LYMAN SUPER TARGETSPOT WITH mounts. Pay $50.00 cash for best one offered. Charles Davis, 614 Sixth Street South, St. Charles, Illinois. 3-42

WANTED—RIFLE .30-06 AND .250-3000. 30 Cal. bullets, 150 gr. 12 Ga. Shotgun and K-22. Andrew Kenney, 7913 Inglenook 21, Pittsburgh, Pa. 3-42

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SELL OR TRADE: BAUSCH AND LOMB ARMY Binoculars, Mill Scale Individual focus 6x30 with case, Fecker small game scope quarter minute click mounts, both optically perfect, outside good. WANT: Lyman, Jr. 8X Scope, 257 Roberts, 250-3000 Savage, or 270 Winchester. E. D. Hunter, 1500 Sharon Dr., Silver Spring, Md. 3-42

SINGLE SHOT ENTHUSIASTS ATTENtion! Available soon, Working Chart covering Automatic Ejector for Winchester Single Shot Actions, accommodating Rimless Cartridges. Nominal charge, limited supply. "Single-Shot" Ratliff, N4912 Market, Spokane, Wash. 3-42

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GENUINE PEARL, IVORY AND STAG REvolver grips, plain and carved. Send for price list A. Frank Mittermeier, 3577 E. Tremont Ave., Bronx, N. Y. 3-42

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DU PONT 4350, 4064, 4320, 3031, 4198, 4227, pound cans, $1.75. DuPont 5, 6, 4759, 8 ounce cans $1.05. Hercules Hivel 2, 2400, Sharpshooter, Lightning (bulk) pound, $1.75. Bullseye (bulk), 8 ounces, $1.05. Primers 37¢ hundred (200 sold with each pound of smokeless powder only). DuPont and Hercules Bulk Smokeless, 8 ounce can $1.05, 3 pound keg, $6.30. DuPont and Hercules Black Powder, pound can, 75¢, 6¼ pound keg, $3.75, 25 pound keg, $12.50. WANTED—Colt and Smith & Wesson hand guns in all calibres. 30-30 carbines and 30-06 rifles. Send complete description of guns and prices wanted. Hollywood Gun Shop, 5216 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood, Calif. 3-42

FOR SALE: COLT .44 FRONTIER, VERY GOOD, $12.50. .45 Colt New Service, 5½" very good, $20.00. Iver Johnson .32 excellent, $7.50. H&R .22 Premier, excellent $7.50. Remington 1917, 30-06 sporter 22" barrel, Pacific ramp, Lyman 57 peep, rounded receiver Bishop stock oil finish, excellent, $40.00. Winchester model 70, 250-3000, new with sling, three boxes Western Silver-tip, $70.00. William Hinton, Route 3, Hiawatha, Kansas. 3-42

WANTED—417 WALNUT HILL. PERFECT or Excellent. Cash or trade fancy walnut, maple, or myrtle blanks as part payment. Roy Schaefer, 207 Mill St., Eugene, Oregon. 3-42

FOR SALE: COLTS D. A. 45, EXCELLENT, LATE issue ammunition 30-06, Binocular 8 pr. excellent. Want: Excellent 35 Auto 6x30 or 8x30 Prism Binocular, Zeiss or B&L. O. J. Mees, Wilmot, S. D. 3-42

WANTED—H. B. 52 OR 37, CASH FOR BARGAIN. See or Trade: Beautiful English double 12 gauge W. and C. Scott and Son, Makers and Patentees. Cost $850.00. Best Offer: Excellent Krag sporter; Excellent 45, Perfect Match Target Woodsman; 218-B Winchester single shot high wall, heavy barrel, scope blocks, no sights, beautiful French Walnut stock, cheek piece, photograph; Weaver Machine rest, perfect, $10.00; 30-06 cases $.90 per 100. Tode Brenneman, Roswell, New Mexico. 3-42

SELL—GRIFFIN & HOWE 30-06 SPORTER, Mauser action, v. g. Cost $150; Pair latest O.M.T. Colt .22 & .38 revolvers, excellent. Best offers. Also .45 S. A. Colt nickel plated, ivory handles, fair. $25.00; Mossberg 51M .22 automatic rifle, excellent $15.00; WANT 16 mm Ampro projector; 250-3000 rifle. H. E. Samson, Box 677, Roswell, N. Mexico 3-42

L. C. SMITH IDEAL 12 GA. A. E., S. T. WANT equal 20 gauge. Want M. T. Woodsman for cash R. Rye, Blooming Prairie, Minn. 3-42

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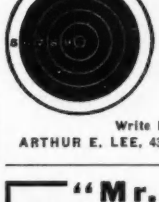

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WANTED—BROWNING, REMINGTON OR MARlin over-and-under. Preferably 20 gauge. Virgil Schroth, Warrick, Montana. 3-42

WANTED — LYMAN SUPER TARGETSPOTS, Lyman 48W rear, Rangeking for A-5 Winchester. Karl Sunderman, Buffalo Center, Iowa. 3-42

WANTED—TWO VERY GOOD BROWNING Over-Unders with ventilated rib and single trigger—one skeet bored, other modified and full. George Edwards, Elgin, Ill. 3-42

FOR SALE: WINCHESTER MODEL 94 CARbine, 30-30, perfect, with case and cleaning rod. $35.00 cash. Lawrence Revermann, Melrose, Minn. 3-42

WANT—S. & W. REGULATION POLICE .38, 5 shot. New or perfect *only*. J. R. Bodler, U.S.S. Regulus, % Postmaster, San Francisco, Calif. 3-42

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DUPONT POWDERS NO. 4759, $1.15 FOR 8-oz. canister. No. 6 pistol, $1.10, 8-oz. canister. No. 4198, 4320, 4350, 4227, 4064 and 3031, $1.75 per pound canister. Hercules No. 2400, Hivel No. 2, Lightning and Sharpshooter, $1.70 per pound. Unique and Bullseye, $1.10 per ½ pound. Please send empty powder cans by parcel post to repack the Hercules powders into. W-M 8S .22 caliber bullets, all weights, light and heavy jacket, $2.25 per 100 prepaid. Still have fair stock, .22, .25, .270 and .30 caliber bullets. Empty cases in .218 Bee, .219 Zipper, .250 Savage. .257 Roberts, 30-06, 300 H&H, .45 Auto Rim and a few others. Western factory loaded cartridges in .218 Bee and .219 Zipper. Have no primers of any kind at the time this ad was sent in, but am doing all I can to get them soon as possible. Send stamp for list of supplies. Leslie M. Lindahl, Central City, Nebraska. 3-42

400 30-06 F. A. CASES RESIZED 1¼¢. 300 38 Sp. 1¢. M95 Winchester 30-40 carbine new barrel, $27.00. 38 Colts Long 6 shot 4 in. Kynoch hammerless revolver, cased, $19.00. Mack McWhorter, Park Terrace, Corvallis, Oregon. 3-42

45-70 SPRINGFIELD, TARGET, POPE BARREL, silver-plated mountings, peep sight, pistol grip, set trigger, very good inside and out; including 40 rounds ammunition. B. Wagner, 12834 Moorpark St., N. Hollywood, Calif. 3-42

SELL—3 1898 GERMAN ARMY RIFLES, ACtions. $12.50. 4 Low Wall, $6.00. 1 refinished, $8.00. Stevens 44½ 25-20. TRADE—200 late F. A. 30-06 for 1000 N.C.N.M. primers. Howard Harris, Box 2, % P.O., Petersburg, Virginia. 3-42

WALTHAM 16s. 21J. $25.00; ILLINOIS 16s. 21j. $22.00; Burlington 16s. 19j. $20.00. Trade for rifle, pistol or revolver. Ray Nelson, Roy, Utah. 3-42

TORRID HEAT OIL BURNER FOR SALE, complete, $50.00. WANT—Gibson Electric Guitar, late model, with amplifier. State price, size 5. Gabriel Pacciarelli, 1447 Neilson St., Utica, N. Y. 3-42

WANTED—REMINGTON 30S OR WINCHESTER 70, .257 Roberts, in good to excellent condition. Will send telegraphic money order. Bernard F. Zinar, Bemidji, Minn. 3-42

FOR SALE: .30-06 MANNLICHER SCHOENAUER Rifle. British leaf sights and tang peep. Excellent to perfect. $95.00. WANT—Model 70, .257. C. J. Hansen, 2711 N. E. 26th Ave., Portland, Oregon. 3-42

WANTED—MOLDS FOR HEAVY TARGET BULlets, 32-40 and 38-55; two diameter grooved or patched. Information on firm of Hitchcock and Muzzy, or their target arms. H. F. Turk, Cisne, Ill. 3-42

.351 WINCHESTER M/1907, GOOD, LYMAN rear, $29.50; M/1886 Winchester 40-65 carbine, good bore, action, $17.00; M/74 Winchester autoloading .22 short, VG, $15.00; Austrian 8mm straight-pull carbine, $20.00; GEW 98 rifle, fair, $12.50; Russian 7/62, good, $15.00; 25-20 repeater empties, as fired, $1.10 hundred, postpaid. Charles Hennig, 4220 Cuming, Omaha, Nebraska. 3-42

SELL OR TRADE: BELGIAN BROWNING 35 cal. Automatic Rifle, appearance and parts same as Remington Woodmaster. Used very little, mechanically fine except few small rust spots on muzzle, outside. Bore perfect. Equipped with 3½ x 6 power Voigtlander Braunschweig hunting scope with quick detachable mounts. Windage adjustment on base, elevation internal, with locking screw. Optically perfect and few outside scratches. Cost new $200.00, sell for $125.00. Ship C.O.D. examination privilege. WANT—15X Super Targetspots, two 50M Bausch & Lomb Prismatics, Colt Woodsman 6½", High Standard D 6½. Richard Bruffee, 135 Bridge St., Shelburne Falls, Mass. 3-42

GAS CHECKS; CALIBERS 22; 25; 270; 7MM; 30; 32; 8mm; $1.25 per 1000 postpaid, less 10% on orders for 5000 or more. Warner & Son, 2512 Pleasant Valley, Altoona, Penna. 3-42

COLTS 38 ARMY SPECIALS; 6 INCH, $15.00; 4½, $17.00. Inspection privileges. Buy 12 gauge Winchester 12, Ithaca, ribbed pump. Ted Stein, 854 Washington, Butte, Montana. 3-42

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PARKER V.H.E. 12-28", F. & M., EJECTORS, excellent, $80.00. Smith Field 16-28 M. & I. C., nonselective single trigger, beavertail, very good out, perfect in. $45.00. H. H. Gaffin, 5548 Carrollton, Indianapolis, Ind. 3-42

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DAVIS 10X, 1¾" OBJECTIVE SNIPER SCOPE with mounts, good, best offer. Winchester Hi-Side Action, $5.00. 3 lbs. Pyro, $3.00. WANT—Big Game Scope. Earl Armstrong, Lewistown, Montana. 3-42

WANTED—NEW CONDITION, WEAVER 330-C Scope, without mounts. Also reloading tools, .38 S. & W. Special. Manuel Devlin, Scoola, Miss. 3-42

FOR SALE: K-HORNET, W-54 ALTERED BOLT, magazine, Weaver 355T, very good, $47.50. K-Hornet, Savage 23D, sling, bases, T mount, very good, $30.00. Sioux Electric Auto Polisher, 12 sheepskin pads, perfect, $47.50. Ralph Williams, Chadron, Nebr. 3-42

SINGLE SHOT KRAG, VERY GOOD OUT, GOOD in, excellent stocking job, Pacific click rear, $25.00. WANT—GEW 98 extractor or cheap action. J. E. Morrell, Linwood, Mass. 3-42

SELL: WINCHESTER 64 ZIPPER. WANT—MODern barrel for 16 gauge Parker, not Trojan. Julius Di Cresce, 5534 Cooper, Detroit, Mich. 3-42

WANTED—FOR CASH: PERFECT MATCH Target Woodsman, Lyman Super Targetspot 20 power, W70-06. Bert Lee, Terry, Montana. 3-42

OFFICERS MODEL .22 AND .38 HEAVY BARrel, custom Hartman case, excellent, $75.00. Woodsman 4½", Heiser holster, good, $30.00. Colt .25 Automatic, holster, fair, $13.50. WANT—8mm Kodak magazine model 90. H. M. Steinmetz, 1508 Moffit Ave., Hewlett, N. Y. 3-42

FOR SALE OR TRADE: BELGIUM Browning 16 gauge Automatic; Model 20 Savage 250-3000; Ansley Fox AE grade 12 x 28; Dan Lefever F grade 12 x 30; 32-40 Scheutzen Ballard, set triggers, moulds, tools, 4H Parker 20 gauge; Specialty Smith 12 x 32. WANT—22, 38 Sp., 45 Pistols, Automatics. Andrew Spina, Towanda, Pa. 3-42

FOR SALE: 1600 F.A. .45 bullets, stannic coated, $20.00; 1600 F.A. .45 bullets, gilding metal, $24.00; 800 F.A. 150 grain, cupro nickel bullets, $8.00; 2000 rounds .45 A.C. loaded ammo, sealed, 1933, $60.00; 200 180 grain Peters flatbase, cupro-nickel bullets, $2.00; two Reising magazines, new, $1.00 each. E. O. Swanson, 820 Donaldson Bldg., Minneapolis, Minnesota. 3-42

WINCHESTER 70, .257 STANDARD, NEVER fired, 330 scope, Redfield Jr. Mount, cheap sheepskin case; 40, 87 gr. and 20, 117 gr. cartridges, $107.50. Cash no trades. Eugene R. Chapin, 1029 Flower Ave., Takoma Park, Md. 3-42

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